CITY HILIGHTS

The Truth Speaks

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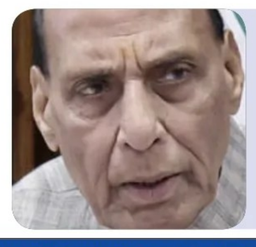
G7 leaders back truce, energy route diversification P9



India defence production hits record E1.78L cr, up 15.6% P11

P10 Real Madrid sign Bernardo Silva on free transfer

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Trump assures support to India during high-profile meeting with Modi

PM Modi and US President Trump discuss defence, trade and regional security at G7 sidelines

EVIAN-LES-BAINS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Donald Trump held wide-ranging talks on the sidelines of the G7 Summit on Wednesday, with Trump assuring India of American support in the event of any external attack and praising Modi's leadership.

The bilateral meeting focused on defence cooperation, trade relations, maritime security and developments in West Asia. Trump said the United States would stand by India if it faced any security threat, even in the absence of a formal treaty commitment.

The two leaders also discussed the evolving situation in West Asia, including the U.S.-Iran peace framework and disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz. Modi expressed hope that recent diplomatic efforts would lead to lasting peace in the region and raised concerns over attacks affecting Indian seafarers.

During the interaction, Trump showered praise on the Indian Prime Minister, describing him as a strong and effective leader. The meeting comes amid ongoing negotiations on trade issues and growing strategic cooperation between the two countries.

The talks marked one of the most closely watched engagements at the summit, reflecting the importance both nations place on strengthening bilateral ties amid global geopolitical uncertainties.

> **"If India were attacked, we would help. We would be there for India."**
> —Donald Trump, US President

MODI-TRUMP MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Defence cooperation featured prominently in discussions.
- Trade negotiations remain a key focus area.
- Leaders discussed West Asia and Strait of Hormuz security.
- Trump reiterated support for India's security interests.

The meeting took place on the final day of the G7 Summit in Evian-les-Bains, where world leaders discussed economic growth, artificial intelligence, Ukraine, West Asia and critical minerals. India attended the summit as an invited nation. The Modi-Trump interaction comes at a time when both countries are seeking to deepen strategic ties while addressing differences over tariffs and trade. Observers view the meeting as an important signal of continued India-U.S. cooperation on regional and global issues.

TRUMP WARNS IRAN OF RENEWED STRIKES IF PEACE ACCORD FALTERS

US President Donald Trump warned that Washington could resume military action against Iran if Tehran fails to comply with the terms of a peace accord expected to be signed in Switzerland on Friday. Speaking on the sidelines of the G7 summit alongside Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, Trump stressed that the proposed agreement was only a "memorandum of understanding" and not a final settlement. He said the United States would not hesitate to act if Iran violated its commitments. "If I don't like it, we will go back to shooting at them," Trump said, adding that the US would resume bombing campaigns if Iran did not "behave." The remarks come amid efforts to formally end hostilities between the two longtime adversaries after months of heightened tensions and military exchanges. Trump also rejected suggestions that the deal would immediately ease sanctions on Iran, saying no such relief was included in the current framework. The agreement, if signed, is expected to lay the groundwork for a broader peace process, though Trump's comments underscored lingering distrust between Washington and Tehran.

Poster war adds political heat to Bidadi Township row

BIDADI

The controversy surrounding the proposed Bidadi Township project has escalated into a full-fledged political poster war between the ruling Congress and the BJP-JD(S) alliance. Congress workers put up posters targeting opposition leaders and accusing them of political opportunism over the farmers' agitation.

The posters took aim at BJP leaders, including Opposition Leader R. Ashoka, while also mocking the JD(S) for announcing a padayatra against the project. In a separate campaign, Congress workers displayed posters carrying photographs of Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, Nikhil Kumaraswamy and Anita Kumaraswamy, alleging links to benami properties.

The exchange highlights the growing political stakes in the Bidadi Township debate, which has triggered strong resistance from local farmers. With both sides seeking to mobilise public opinion, the issue has moved beyond a land acquisition dispute and emerged as a major political flashpoint in Ramanagara district.

CM hits back at BJP over Bidadi project, says Opposition blocking development

BENGALURU

Amid the escalating political row over the proposed Bidadi Township project, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Wednesday accused the BJP of attempting to obstruct the state's development and vowed to expose what he termed the opposition's political motives.

Responding to criticism from BJP leaders and farmer groups opposing the project, Shivakumar said the government was committed to planned urban expansion and would not be deterred by political attacks. He maintained that the project was part of a long-term development vision and not driven by any vested interests.

The BJP claimed that a majority of farmers were against the project and accused the government of prioritising real estate development over agricultural interests. Shivakumar, however, asserted that most affected landowners had already agreed to the project and were awaiting compensation. He also pointed out that similar large-scale township projects were being undertaken in neighbouring states.

> **"I will reply to them and expose how they are trying to stop the development of Karnataka."**
> —D.K. Shivakumar, Chief Minister

DK Shivakumar says township project aimed at development, not private interests

The controversy has triggered a sharp political confrontation between the Congress and the BJP-JD(S) alliance. While opposition leaders allege that the project is linked to a land mafia and threatens fertile agricultural land, the government insists it is a continuation of an earlier development proposal and has received substantial support from farmers. The issue has emerged as a major political flashpoint in Ramanagara district, with both sides seeking to rally public opinion ahead of future electoral contests.

Council poll race hots up as Cong holds mock voting exercise

RAMANAGARA

With the biennial elections to the Karnataka Legislative Council scheduled for June 18. Congress organised a mock voting exercise for its MLAs at the resort on Wednesday to familiarise them with the voting process. Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar participated in the exercise as the party sought to ensure unity ahead of the high-stakes election.

The contest has gained significance after Congress fielded five candidates for the seven available seats, while the BJP has fielded two candidates and the JD(S) one. While four Congress candidates and two BJP nominees are expected to win comfortably, the seventh seat has emerged as the key battleground.

Mock voting exercise held as parties intensify battle for crucial seventh seat

Congress candidate Vinay Kumar and JD(S) candidate Govindaraju are locked in a keen contest for the final berth. The ruling party is reportedly banking on support from independents and legislators from other parties to secure victory.

The presence of former BJP legislators B.T. Somashekar and Shivaram Hebbar, who have been politically aligned with Congress, at the resort attracted attention and fuelled speculation over voting patterns.

"The mock voting exercise was organised to ensure that every MLA casts a valid vote and to prevent any errors during polling," Congress leaders said.

Council election arithmetic

Seven seats are up for grabs. Congress has fielded five candidates, BJP two and JD(S) one. Four Congress and two BJP candidates are expected to win comfortably, leaving the seventh seat as the decisive contest.

Ashoka urges govt to scrap Bidadi Township project

BENGALURU

Leader of the Opposition R. Ashoka on Wednesday demanded that the Karnataka government abandon the proposed Bidadi Township project and accept the demands of farmers and milk producers opposing land acquisition in the region.

After meeting farmers and dairy producers in Bidadi, Ashoka said the area was among the most fertile agricultural belts he had seen in his political career. He claimed that milk production in the region touches six lakh litres a day, generating an annual turnover of ₹25 crore, while silk-related activities contribute another ₹35 crore to the local economy.

Questioning the rationale behind converting agricultural land into layouts, Ashoka said compensation alone could not replace livelihoods built over generations. He argued that farmers would be unable to purchase equivalent land elsewhere and warned that the project could displace local communities while benefiting outsiders.

Ashoka also criticised Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, accusing him of taking contradictory positions on environmental issues.

> Not even an inch of land here is unsuitable for cultivation. Farmers do not want to lose the property that has come down through generations.
> —R Ashoka, Opposition Leader

IAF flies 200+ sorties to secure NEET-UG re-exam papers

NEW DELHI

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has carried out more than 200 sorties over the past four days to transport question papers for the NEET-UG 2026 re-examination, one of the largest security operations undertaken for a national entrance test in recent years.

The mission began on June 13, ahead of the June 21 re-examination. The government enlisted the IAF following the cancellation of the original NEET-UG examination amid allegations of a question paper leak.

Transport aircraft and helicopters have been deployed to collect question papers from designated distribution hubs and deliver them to over 20 locations across the country. Authorities have withheld operational details for security reasons.

The National Testing Agency (NTA) has also strengthened digital monitoring and introduced additional safeguards to prevent misinformation and attempts to compromise the examination process. More than 2.2 million candidates are expected to appear for the re-test after the May examination was scrapped.

Mock drills were conducted in several locations, including Tamil Nadu, where Army helicopters tested the secure movement of examination materials. Officials said the coordinated effort was aimed at ensuring that question papers reach centres without delay or risk of tampering.

"The use of Air Force resources is intended to speed up delivery and strengthen security arrangements for the re-examination," an NTA official said.

NEET-UG 2026 RE-EXAM SECURITY PLAN

- Over 200 IAF sorties conducted.
- Mission launched on June 13.
- More than 20 destinations covered nationwide.
- Over 2.2 million candidates to appear on June 21.

BORDER TENSIONS PERSIST

Israeli strikes hit south Lebanon despite regional peace framework

BEIRUT

Israeli forces carried out a series of airstrikes across southern Lebanon on Wednesday, despite a recently announced U.S.-Iran peace framework that includes provisions aimed at ending hostilities in Lebanon.

According to reports, Israeli warplanes targeted the Nabatieh al-Fawqa area and the outskirts of Kfar Tebnit, while a drone strike hit Ansariyeh in the Zahrani region. The attacks came even as violence in the region has declined since the announcement of a broader West Asia ceasefire arrangement earlier this week.

Lebanese authorities said at least five people have been killed in Israeli strikes since the peace deal was unveiled. The reduced level of fighting has encouraged some residents to return to their towns and villages, although the Lebanese Army has advised civilians to delay their return because of continuing security risks.

The conflict escalated in March after Hezbollah launched attacks against Israel, prompting a large-scale Israeli air and ground campaign. While the U.S.-Iran agreement seeks to halt military operations across multiple fronts, disagreement remains over Israel's military presence in parts of Lebanon.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said any continued Israeli military action in Lebanon would violate the understanding reached between the parties. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, however, has maintained that Israeli forces will remain deployed in Lebanon as long as necessary.

The future of the ceasefire remains uncertain as competing interpretations emerge over Lebanon's role in the broader peace framework. Iran and Hezbollah insist that Israeli forces must withdraw from occupied Lebanese territory, while Israel has signalled no immediate plans to pull back. Hezbollah leader Naim Qassem is expected to address supporters, with regional observers closely watching whether the group maintains its restraint or resumes military operations.

QUICK READ

MacBooks, phones stolen from rented house

CH NEWS, BENGALURU
Stepping out for early-morning coffee turned costly when thieves struck at a house on 19th Main, NGR Layout in Roopenna Agrahara and made away with gadgets and valuables worth around Rs 6.6 lakh. N Karthik (26) and Tarun, both private firm employees, were staying in a rented house. Karthik and Tarun had each been provided a MacBook by their companies for work. Karthik checked his belongings at 3am on June 13 before going to sleep. Around 6.45am, Tarun stepped out to have coffee and left the house door unlocked. Karthik was asleep in another room at the time. When Tarun returned around 7.15am, he found two MacBooks worth about Rs 5 lakh, iPhone costing Rs 1.3 lakh, iWatch worth approximately Rs 25,000 and a wallet containing cash and identity cards were missing.

Illegal horse race betting den busted, bookie held

CH NEWS, BENGALURU
Central Crime Branch's special investigation wing raided an illegal horse race betting racket being run from a house in Jyotinagar, and arrested a 65-year-old bookie who was accepting bets from punters through cash and online transactions. The accused, P Sheshadri, was operating the racket from a room on the third floor of a residential building. Police said he was accepting bets on horse races without any valid licence and conducting gambling activities using multiple mobile phones and bank accounts. Cops seized four phones, a tablet device, calculator, pens and 15 sheets containing horse race details and betting records. Investigators found some of the seized phones were linked to ban k accounts used for handling betting transactions.

Water adalat from 9.30 am to 11 am on June 18

CH NEWS, BENGALURU
The Bengaluru Water Board will conduct a water adalat on June 18 from 9.30 am to 11 am for the benefit of public. Compalints regarding defcenes can be lodged by calling the 24/7 complaint handling center helpline 1916. Complaints can also be lodged at Mobile 87622-28888, the release said.

K-RERA fight for fin autonomy runs into govt wall

'Karnataka's real estate regulator is not facing a shortage of funds, but it is increasingly losing control over its own regulatory.

BENGALURU

While Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority (K-RERA) continues to generate steady revenue through project and agent registrations, penalties and various fees, its ability to independently decide how these funds are utilised has gradually diminished.

Control over the regulator's dedicated fund has increasingly shifted to the state govt, raising concerns about K-RERA's operational autonomy.

The K-RERA Regulatory Fund, a dedicated account mandated under the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act 2016 is meant to ensure the authority's financial self-sufficiency.

The fund was designed to allow the regulator to independently hire staff, process complaints, and manage day-to-day operations without relying on state budget allocations. However this structure has effectively been altered over time. The shift began on March 30, 2019, when the govt took over RERA receipts of around Rs 44 crore, classifying them under a "revision fund". From April 2019, all collections under the Rera framework began flowing into state-controlled accounts, with expenditure for K-RERA later released through annual budgetary allocations.

Under Section 75 of the Act, K-RERA was originally expected to function through a dedicated, self-managed regulatory fund. Officials and internal communications point out that subsequent finance department orders in 2021 further formalised

the arrangement by moving balances into non-interest-bearing reserve accounts and routing all expenditure through the state budget head. This, officials argue, has effectively removed direct operational control over its own funds, shifting K-RERA from a self-sustaining regulator to a budget-dependent body.

The impact is visible on the ground, delayed recruitment, slower legal and expert consultations, mounting complaint backlogs, and constraints in stre ngthening basic infrastructure. The authority has shot off letters between March 2021 and July 2022, but officials say there has been no resolution. The matter reached the High Court in 2021, where concerns were raised over the handling of the regulatory fund.

The court directed the govt to retrace and fall in line with other neighbouring states so that autonomy to the authority would emerge, underscoring the need to restore financial independence. Despite the order, officials say the budgetary system continues with the state govt funding salaries, maintenance and operations.

As of March 2026, K-RERA has collected Rs 85 crore in regulatory revenue. In a fresh communication to the Chief Secretary, it has again sought urgent restoration of control over the regulatory fund, stating the current framework limits its ability to function as an independent quasi-judicial regulator.

Fight for independence

Despite generating substantial revenue, the Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority (K-RERA) has hit a government wall in its pursuit of financial autonomy. The state government continues to control its funds and operational budgets, limiting the regulator's independence and its ability to independently hire external consultants.

The struggle for financial control involves several key roadblocks:

SHIFTED CONTROL: Under the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act (RERA) 2016, K-RERA is mandated a dedicated regulatory fund to achieve self-sufficiency, but administration has increasingly shifted to the state govt.

REVENUE GENERATION: While the authority continues to collect steady revenue from project registrations, penalties, and fees—accumulating Rs 85 crore as of recent checks—it is still forced to rely on state budget allocations for basic salaries and maintenance.

CONSULTANT BOTTLENECK: Restrictions have been placed on K-RERA's ability to independently hire technical, legal, and financial domain experts, hindering its ability to operate as a fully independent quasi-judicial body.

BROADER PUSHBACK: The financial squeeze comes on the heels of the Karnataka High Court previously striking down circulars related to delay fees imposed on developers, citing a lack of strict statutory backing. Furthermore, the authority has struggled with enforcement, with revenue recovery processes yielding low returns.

10-metre viewing gap, no feeding or bathing by visitors.

Dubare fallout: K'taka forest dept issues new SoP for elephant camps

BENGALURU

Nearly a month after the tragic incident at Dubare Elephant Camp in Kodagu, the forest department has ordered a comprehensive overhaul of tourist management and elephant-handling practices across its 14 elephant camps in the state.

As part of the revamp, the department has notified a detailed Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) aimed at transforming the camps from close-contact tourist attractions into regulated eco-tourism and conservation education centres.

The new guidelines place a strong emphasis on public safety, elephant welfare and emergency preparedness. Contrary to the popular perception that elephant camps are recreational destinations, the SoP makes it clear that they are not entertainment venues and requires visitors to maintain a safe distance from elephants at all times. Activities that were once popular among tourists, including touching, feeding, bathing elephants and taking selfies close to the animals — have now been completely prohibited.

The SoP states, the purpose of allowing visitors to these camps is conservation education, awareness and not direct interaction with the elephants.

Weekly closure day for all camps

Tourists will only be allowed to observe from designated galleries or viewing points and will be prohibited from entering rivers, bathing areas or elephant movement corridors. It also mandates a weekly closure day for all camps, preferably Tuesdays.

Among the key features of the protocol is the introduction of a three-tier safety zoning system, demarcating separate areas for visitors, forest staff and elephant handlers.

Public shall be restricted to designated 'green zones' surrounded by barricades. No visitor shall be allowed to go out of the green zone.

This will be followed by 'amber zone' where department officials, emergency response teams and operational support staff are allowed to enter. Beyond these, will be the 'red zone' where only mahouts, kavadis, veterinarians and authorised forest officials will be allowed," it states.

Bathing, feeding, tethering, veterinary care, elephant movement, loading and unloading, and active handling of elephants will be carried out exclusively within the red zone, which will be secured through barricades and physical separation. The SoP also mandates CCTV surveillance of critical areas to monitor violations and detect any attempt to cross safety barriers.

The protocol prescribes a minimum viewing distance of 10 metres between visitors and elephants wherever feasible. Not more than 10 elephants can be displayed during any public session, and only those classified as Green Category animals assessed as calm, healthy and responsive to commands by veterinarians, mahouts and camp authorities can be presented before visitors.Elephants showing signs of aggression, stress, illness, fatigue, musth or behavioural uncertainty will be barred from public viewing. Daily behavioural assessments will be mandatory before every visitor session. The guidelines place special emphasis on bathing activities, categorising them as high-risk operations.

Insta friendship ends in tragedy: Woman killed, live-in partner held

CH NEWS

A shocking murder case has come to light, where a 20-year-old woman was allegedly strangled to death by her live-in partner following a personal dispute inside their rented house in Malleswaram.

The victim, identified as Anusha (20), and the accused, Sharath (25), were both natives of Sakleshpur in Hassan district. According to preliminary information, the two had become acquainted through Instagram and later entered into a live-in relationship.

Sharath, who worked as a water tanker driver, and Anusha had been living together in a house at Thayappa Garden in Malleswaram for the past six months. Police sources indicate that the couple had experienced frequent disagreements even before the incident. Investigators have learned that Anusha was neither studying nor employed at the time. Information gathered so far suggests that she had no parents and was survived by an elder sister. Residents familiar with the couple reportedly told police that Sharath used to take care of household chores, including washing clothes and utensils.

Police inquiries have revealed that the couple had argued on multiple occasions in the past. Following one such dispute, Anusha had reportedly returned to Sakleshpur and stayed there for some time. However, Sharath is said to have brought her back to Bengaluru just two days before the fatal incident.

According to investigators, another argument broke out between the two shortly after her return. During the altercation, Sharath allegedly strangled Anusha, leading to her death.

The incident reportedly took place on Saturday night at their residence in Malleswaram. However, the matter came to light only later when Sharath informed a lawyer about what had happened on Monday. The lawyer immediately alerted the police, following which personnel from the Sheshadripuram Police Station visited the location and conducted an inspection. Based on the findings, police registered a case and launched a search operation. Sharath was subsequently traced and taken into custody. He has since been arrested and is currently being subjected to detailed questioning as part of the ongoing investigation.

Following legal formalities, Anusha's body was handed over to her family members. Police are continuing their investigation to establish the complete sequence of events surrounding the incident.

Lokayukta raid on 8 govt officials, property worth Rs 31.11 cr unearthed

BENGALURU

Lokayukta police, who raided 35 places belonging to 8 officials across the state, have found disproportionate assets worth Rs 31.11 crore. Lokayukta officials said in a statement.

8 cases were registered in the Lokayukta regarding government officials of Karnataka Lokayukta Police Division Bengaluru Urban-2, Bengaluru Rural-1, Davangere-3, Kalaburagi-1 and Chikkamagaluru Lokayukta police station having disproportionate assets beyond their known sources of income. In this regard, the Lokayukta police conducted raids and inspected and found assets worth a total of Rs 31.11 crore belonging to 8 government officials. Lokayukta officials shared information about this through a publication.

SL Rajanna, Additional Director, Urban Planning, Karnataka Housing Board, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru, Raids on 5 sites Rs 7.10 crore.

MB Udaya Kumar, Assistant Executive Engineer, BESCOM C-07 Sub-Division, Yelahanka, Bangalore, Raid on 4 places Rs 3.90 crore, PN Harshavardhan P. N, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Davangere. Raids on 4 sides Rs. 2.70 crore, Siddeshwar N Hebbal, Chief Technical Engineer, NWKRTC, Hubballi. Raid on 3 places Rs 2.61 crore, Sanna Kenchappa, Superintendent Engineer, KRDL, Belgaum. Raid on 5 sites Rs. 2.54 crore, LA Krishna Nayak, Secretary, Bayaluseema Development Board, Chitradurga. Raid on 4 places Rs 2.57 crores, Manik S Kanakatte, Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department, Kalaburagi Division, Kalaburagi. Raids at 5 places Rs 4.94 crores, KS Mohan, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Chikkamagaluru Sub-Division, Jinkevana, Kadur Road, Chikkamagaluru District. Raids at 5 places, Rs 3.62 crore.

No relief for BDA secy on KIC rap

BENGALURU

The High Court has refused to interfere with disciplinary action recommended by Karnataka Information Commission (KIC) against CL Shivakumar, Secretary of Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) and also an appellate authority under RTI Act. Shivakumar challenged the two orders passed by KIC, first, passed in January 2026 imposing Rs 25,000 as cost for failure to furnish the information; second, in February 2026, recommending disciplinary action against him. The petitioner argued he took charge as BDA Secretary on May 8, 2025, and the order directing providing information preceded that date. Rejecting his argument, Justice Suraj Govindaraj pointed out from May 8, 2025, till KIC passed the orders, there was sufficient time available for Shivakumar to take action in terms of the earlier directions. Hence, his conduct cannot be approved of.

Man tries to get free 5G upgrade, ends up with Rs 15 lakh loan

BENGALURU

A 50-year-old private firm employee was duped by a cyber fraudster posing as an executive of a telecom service provider company who offered to upgrade his 4G sim to 5G.

By converting the sim into an e-sim, the fraudster hacked the victim's email, mobile number and bank account. A Rs 15 lakh loan was fraudulently obtained through the victim's bank account, and Rs 2.1 lakh was siphoned off in just 30 minutes.

According to the complaint filed by the person, a resident of Victoria Layout, the incident happened on June 13 when he received a call from a mobile number around 3 pm. The caller claimed to be an executive of a telecom service provider company and offered to upgrade the victim's mobile connection from a 4G to a 5G sim, the person said.

The fraudsters collected the Embedded Identity Document (EID) number and converted his mobile number into an e-sim. Soon after, the fraudster gained control of the victim's email account, mobile number and banking credentials.The fraudster subsequently obtained a loan of Rs 15 lakh in the victim's name through his bank account without his knowledge.

Of the sanctioned amount, Rs 14.6 lakh was credited to the victim's account, and almost Rs 2.2 lakh was siphoned off by 3.30pm.

Realising that his account had been compromised, the victim complained to the cyber helpline and bank. On June 15, he approached the central cyber crime police and lodged a complaint.

A senior officer said while converting his physical sim to an e-sim, the individual has an option to select the device.

The fraudsters took advantage of this option and selected their device to convert and activate the e-sim. They also hacked the banking credentials and took an instant loan from the bank. Before they siphoned off the entire loan amount, the victim realised it was a fraud and filed a complaint.

HEALTH CONCERN

Fake gynaecologists under Health dept scanner

BENGALURU

Amid reports of a growing num ber of pregnant women falling prey to unqualified practitioners posing as gynaecologists in Bengaluru's outskirts and suburban areas, the Bengaluru Urban Zilla Panchayat has directed the Health Department to intensify action against such individuals.

"Unqualified practitioners masquerading as gynaecologists are allegedly administering unauthorised treatment in several parts of the

district, putting the lives of mothers and newborns at serious risk during childbirth," said R Yatheesh, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Bengaluru Urban ZP.

Chairing the quarterly District-level Coordination Committee meeting of the National Child Health Programme (RBSK), ASHA Monitoring and Grievance Redressal, and NPPCF programme, he directed the Health Department to constitute a special team to inspect private gynaecology clinics across the district and initiate legal action against unqualified practitioners.

According to officials, many such practitioners are graduates of ayurveda or homeopathy. Especially in rural areas, people do not know the difference between an MBBS doctor and a BAMS or BHMS doctor. Duri ng emergencies, they often go to the first clinic they find. So far, we have not had any untoward incidents, and we want to ensure it stays that way, a senior official said.Yatheesh also instructed ASHAs, who regularly visit households, to document the dietary patterns of pregnant women and new mothers in Bengaluru Urban district over the next three months and submit a comprehensive report.

The direction follows a recent report submitted by the CEO of Mandya district, which found that nutrient-deficient dietary habits were widespread and could be contributing to poor infant health and malnutrition. He said such a report woul d help the department design targeted awareness campaigns and nutritional interventions.

He also called for coordinated efforts across departments to reduce reliance on groundwater for drinking water as part of fluorosis prevention measures.

Woman spots iPhone in PG bathroom vent, neighbour questioned

BENGALURU

A private firm employee's alertness helped uncover an alleged attempt to secretly record women in the bathroom of a paying guest accommodation in Bhoganahalli near Bellandur.

The woman, who has been residing at a co-living PG for the past two months, told police that at 4.30 pm on June 14, she noticed a white iPhone inside the bathroom air vent. Suspecting that someone was recording her, she left the bathroom and alerted the PG caretaker.

The caretaker knocked on the door of a room adjacent to the complainant's room and the person who came out denied any wrongdoing.

However, during further questioning, he admitted to have placed his phone on the bathroom vent, Roopa told police. The suspect was brought to Bellandur police station, where his mobile phone was examined.

An officer said, "We didn't find the complainant's bathing video on his phone. There is a possibility that he deleted the video or she spotted the phone before he recorded anything."

QUICK READ

Scholarship applications open for disabled students

CH NEWS, Gadag Applications are invited for scholarships for differently-abled students in Gadag district, Karnataka for the 2026–27 academic year through the State Scholarship Portal. Eligible pre-matric and post-matric students can apply online at https://ssp.postmatric.karnataka.gov.in. A copy of the application must also be submitted to local gram panchayats, urban bodies, and taluk offices as instructed. For more information, applicants may contact designated disability welfare officers and the district administration helpline numbers provided in the notification. Several officials from Gadag, Ron, Mundargi, Shirahatti, and Nargund taluks are available for assistance. They help ensure smooth application submission and su pport for eligible students across Karnataka districts.

Municipality invites surgery aid applications

CH NEWS, Koppal Koppal City Municipal Council has invited applications for financial assistance for surgeries for people belonging to backward classes under the 2025–26 scheme. The scheme provides 40 percent medical aid under the 24.10 percent allocation as per district collector orders for eligible beneficiaries in the municipality area. Applicants must be permanent residents of Koppal city and should submit caste and income certificates, medical documents, hospital bills, Aadhaar or ration card copies, and photographs. Applications must be submitted at Koppal City Municipal Council office by June 30, and late or incomplete applications will not be considered under any circumsta nces strictly enforced rule.

Youth died after gym workout

CH NEWS, Davanagere Sushil Kumar, a young man from Davanagere, Karnataka, died after collapsing at his home shortly after returning from a gym workout. According to reports, he had completed his exercise session on Tuesday night and went back home, where he later had dinner. Soon after eating, he suddenly collapsed. Family members rushed to help, but he could not be revived. The incident has raised concern about sudden deaths following physical exertion, though the exact cause has not yet been confirmed. Authorities are expected to investigate and determine whether any underlying health condition contributed to the tragedy. Further details are awaited officially.

Demand rises for govt PU college in Belagavi North

Demand grows for government PU college in Belagavi North due to limited public institutions and rising student admissions pressure.

BELAGAVI

The demand for establishing an additional government Pre-University (PU) college in Belagavi North constituency has gained momentum, highlighting concerns over limited access to affordable higher secondary education in the region.

According to local residents and education stakeholders, Belagavi city currently has around 72 PU colleges, but only a small fraction is government-run institutions. Of these, just one government PU college is located in the Belagavi North constituency, leaving a significant gap in public education access for students from economically weaker backgrounds.

With rising enrolment pressure after SSLC results each year, parents and educators have expressed concern that many students are forced to opt for private PU colleges due to the shortage of government seats. This often results in higher financial burden on families, particularly in urban and semi-urban areas of the constituency.

Education activists argue that the imbalance between government and private institutions is affecting equitable access to education. They say government PU colleges play a crucial role in providing low-cost education, especially for students from rural and low-income households who aspire to pursue science, commerce, and arts streams.

Reports indicate that across the Belagavi district, demand for PU education continues to rise steadily, driven by increasing pass percentages and aspirations for professional courses like engineering, medicine, and commerce-related degrees.

Stakeholders have urged the state government and the Department of Pre-University Education to consider upgrading more high schools into PU colleges or establishing new government institutions in underserved areas such as Belagavi North.

They believe that expanding public PU infrastructure will help reduce dependence on private colleges, ensure greater inclusivity, and improve overall access to higher education opportunities in the region.

FIR filed in Davanagere cylinder blast

DAVANAGERE

FIR filed in Davanagere cylinder blast case against gas company, building owner and others over alleged negligence causing explosion and injury.

Police have registered an FIR against a private gas company, a building owner, and two others in connection with a cylinder blast incident that left one person injured and caused significant damage.

According to officials, the case has been filed against building owner Doggalli Shivakumar, an injured individual named Anil who is currently undergoing treatment, and representatives linked to a private gas company. The incident reportedly occurred due to a suspected gas cylinder leak that triggered an explosion.

Preliminary investigations suggest possible negligence in handling and safety compliance, prompting authorities to invoke relevant sections of law related to public safety and property damage. Police are examining whether proper safety protocols were followed in the storage and usage of the gas cylinder involved in the blast.

Emergency responders had rushed to the site immediately after the explosion, and the injured person was shifted to a nearby hospital for treatment. The condition of the injured individual is being monitored by medical staff.

Officials said forensic teams are assessing the cause of the blast, including potential technical faults, maintenance lapses, or human error. Statements from witnesses and occupants of the building are also being recorded as part of the ongoing investigation.

Authorities have emphasized the importance of strict adherence to safety standards in residential and commercial buildings, particularly in the handling of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders, which can pose serious risks if not maintained properly.

The FIR marks the beginning of a formal investigation aimed at determining accountability and preventing similar incidents in the future. Police have assured that appropriate legal action will be taken based on the findings of the inquiry.

Haveri DC orders priority salary for civic workers

HAVERI

District Collector Dr. Vijayamahantesh Danammanavar directed officials to ensure that salaries of civic workers in urban local bodies are given top priority from tax revenue collections and that tax recovery efforts are strengthened across the district.

Chairing a meeting of the District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee on prevention of atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Collector reviewed pending wage issues, including delays in payment for pourakarmikas in Guttal Town Panchayat.

He instructed officials to ensure that salary disbursement for civic workers is not delayed under any circumstances and emphasized the need for strict financial discipline in local bodies. During the meeting, non-official members raised concerns about delays in loan approvals by banks under various government schemes such as guarantee programmes, MGNREGA, and social security initiatives. They alleged that beneficiaries are being denied loans despite eligibility, and also pointed out language barriers faced by Kannada-speaking customers in banks.

Responding to these concerns, the Collector directed officials to coordinate with the Lead Bank authorities and ensure that banks do not withhold loans using scheme funds as collateral. He instructed strict compliance to resolve banking-related grievances.

Members also highlighted issues related to Jal Jeevan Mission implementation, stating that drinking water supply remains inadequate in several villages. Officials responded that multi-village drinking water projects are under progress and assured improvements in supply in the coming days.

Additional discussions were held on recruitment in the medical college, fair price shop allocations, and representation of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates in outsourced staffing. Officials stated that roster-based recruitment is being followed. The Food and Civil Supplies Department infor med that out of 465 ration shops in the district, 24 are currently operated by SC/ST members, with plans to increase allocation in accordance with government norms. The Collector assured that all issues raised in the meeting would be addressed on priority and directed departments to resolve grievances in a time-bound manner.

FDA, son held in Lokayukta bribery trap in Siruguppa

BALLARI

A First Division Assistant (FDA) working at the Siruguppa Tahsildar office and her son have been arrested by Lokayukta officials while allegedly accepting a bribe of ₹1.10 lakh in a corruption case linked to land record manipulation.

The accused, identified as Suvarna, an FDA, and her son Deepak, were caught red-handed during a trap operation conducted by the Karnataka Lokayukta officials.

According to officials, the complainant, Govinda K. from Bairapura village in Siruguppa taluk, had approached the office seeking correction of land records in Survey No. 57/1D. He requested removal of the "Inam" classification and updating it as "Patta" in the revenue documents.

It is alleged that Suvarna demanded ₹1.60 lakh as bribe to process the request. Unable to pay the bribe, the complainant approached the Lokayukta police, following which a case was registered under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

No demand for minister post: MLA S. S. Mallikarjun

DAVANAGERE

Congress MLA S. S. Mallikarjun said that he has never demanded a ministerial position and will continue working as a party worker, emphasizing that any leadership appointment should benefit both the party and the public.

Speaking at a mass marriage event organized on the occasion of the 106th birth anniversary of late former minister Shamanur Shivashankarappa, he said that the Congress party's focus should be on strengthening the organisation and ensuring victory in the 2028 elections.

He added that while there is natural aspiration for ministerial posts among elected representatives, decisions should ultimately serve public interest and improve governance outcomes. He also stated that he has already advised supporters not to stage protests demanding ministerial or Deputy Chief Minister posts. The MLA defen ded the government's welfare initiatives, particularly the guarantee schemes, stating that they have strengthened the state's financial condition rather than we akening it, as alleged by critics.

He avoided commenting on certain political controversies, including issues related to the RSS, and said that electoral strategies and alliances would become clear after upcoming elections.

During the event, a mass wedding ceremony for 60 couples was conducted, with pa rticipation from several political leaders, including MP Prabha Mallikarjun.

Modi government's 12-year tenure praised in Bagalkot event

BAGALKOT

Senior BJP leaders highlighted the achievements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, describing his 12-year tenure as a period of development, trust, and public welfare during a press conference held in Bagalkot.

Speaking at the event, Member of Parliament P. C. Gaddigoudar said that the government led by Modi has been guided by a long-term vision focused on national development and citizen welfare. He said the "development journey" of the country over the past decade reflects strong public trust in the leadership, with successive electoral victories in 2014, 2019, and 2024.He stated that governance under Modi has emphasized inclusive growth through the principle of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas," which he said has been transformed into a nationwide move ment rather than remaining a slogan.

Leaders present at the event highlighted several flagship welfare schemes, including Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, stating that these programmes have significantly improved access to basic services across rural and urban India.

Former minister Murugesh Nirani said that infrastructure development, welfare distribution, and economic reforms have strengthened India's global standing. He also pointed to expansion in airports, highways, medical colleges, and AIIMS institutions as indicators of rapid development.

Speakers claimed that increased welfare delivery, including free food grain distribution during the COVID-19 period and expanded gas connections under clean energy in itiatives, reflects the governme nt's focus on poverty alleviatio n and social support systems.

They further argued that India's economic position has improved globally and that governance has become more transparent and corruption-free compared to earlier regimes. However, they emphasized that development achievements should be assessed in terms of long-term impact and asset creation.

The event was attended by several party leaders and local representatives, who collectively reiterated their support for the government's development agenda and future policy direction.

Demand grows for ESI hospital in Hosapete to improve healthcare access for industrial workers and their families.

Demand rises for ESI hospital amid regional industrial expansion

HOSAPETE

The demand for establishing an Employees' State Insurance (ESI) hospital in Hosapete has gained momentum, with workers' groups and industry representatives urging the government to improve healthcare access for insured employees in the region.

A delegation from the Confe deration of Construction Industry, led by Ashwin Kothambari, met Member of Parliament E. Tukaram and submitted a memorandum requesting immediate approval for an ESI hospital in the area. Stakeholders said Hosapete and surrounding industrial zones have a large workforce engaged in mining, construction, and manufacturing sectors, but access to specialized ESI healthcare facilities remains limited. They argued that employees often need to travel long distances to access insured medical services, causing delays in treatment and financial strain. The delegation emphasized that establishing an ESI hospital locally would significantly improve emergency care, occupational health services, and routine medical support for insured workers and their families.

They also pointed out that the region's industrial growth has increased the need for stro nger healthcare infrastructure. Industry representatives noted that Karnataka's expanding indu strial base, particularly in districts like Vijayanagara, requi res parallel development of heal thcare facilities to ensure worker welfare and productivity.

GADAG ADMINISTRATION REVIEW

DC warns officials over delay in birth-death registration

GADAG

District Collector C. N. Sridhar has issued strict instructions to officials, stating that delays in birth and death registration will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Chairing a district-level coordination committee meeting on the birth and death registration system held at the District Administration Bhavan, the Collector reviewed progress and emphasized the need for timely and error-free registration across the district.

He directed that registration of births and deaths must be completed within the stipulated timeframe without exception. He also instructed that medical officers responsible for registration in all government hospitals must compulsorily possess digital keys, stating that no excuses or exemptions would be accepted in this regard. The Collector warned that failure to ensure timely registration would make the concerned officials accountable. He stressed that birth and death records are essential for citizens to access various government services, legal documentation, and administrative processes, and therefore negligence in this area cannot be permitted.

During the meeting, District Statistical Officer B. S. Patil informed that two hospitals in the district have shown commendable performance by completing registrations within the prescribed time limits. He urged other hospitals to adopt similar practices to improve overall efficiency.

According to data from January to May 2026, a total of 6,994 birth cases were registered in the district, of which 5,090 cases (72.78%) were recorded within the stipulated time. Among taluks, Gadag and Mundargi recorded the highest timely registration rates, while Ron taluk lagged behind with only 47.11%.

In terms of death registrations, 3,872 cases were recorded, with 2,830 (73.09%) completed on time. Shirahatti taluk showed the highest performance at 79.51%, while other taluks including Gadag, Mundargi, Lakshmeshwar, Naragund, and Ron recorded varying levels of compliance.

Jnana Satra concludes in Gangavathi Temple

GANGAVATHI

A religious "Jnana Satra" programme held at the Sri Yogeshwara Yajnavalkya Temple in Gangavathi concluded with traditional rituals and a ceremonial finale, marking the end of a 33-day spiritual observance conducted during the auspicious Adhika Masa period.

The event concluded with the performance of the Sri Purushottama Homa and Purnahuti, attended by religious lea ders, temple com mittee members, and devotees.

The programme had been organized to coincide with the rare lunar calendar month, which occurs once in appro ximately three years and is considered highly significant in Hindu tradition.

The festival be gan on May 9 and included a se ries of spiritual and devotional activities aim ed at promoting religious learning, discipline, and community participation.

Daily rituals, discou rses, and special ceremonies were conducted throughout the progra mme period.

QUICK READ

Bodies of two drowned youths recovered in coast

Kasargod

The bodies of two 20-year-old youths who drowned off Red Moon Beach in Pallikkara, Kasargod, have been recovered from the Chithari river. The deceased have been identified as Appu T Abraham from Changanassery and Ankith Balu from Chiranchira Pathanthara. The incident occurred two days earlier when the group of friends entered the sea and were swept away by strong currents. Despite search operations by the Coast Guard and Bekal police, they could not be traced immediately. Their bodies were later found in the river. After post-mortem procedures at the district government hospital, the remains were handed over to the families and taken to their native places for final rites.

Muharram celebrations banned in two villages of Vijayapura

Vijayapura

In a move aimed at maintaining law and order, Vijayapura Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate Dr. Anand K. has issued prohibitory orders banning the celebration of Muharram in two villages of the district from June 17 to June 26. According to official orders, Muharram celebrations have been prohibited in Kalakeri village of Talikoti taluk and Honavada village of Tikota taluk. The restrictions have been imposed as a precautionary measure to prevent any disturbance to public peace and to ensure communal harmony during the period. The district administration stated that the decision was taken considering the prevailing law-and-order situation and in the interest of maintaining peace in the affected villages. Authorities have appealed to residents to cooperate with the administration and adhere to the orders issued by the District Magistrate. Violation of the prohibitory orders will invite legal action under the relevant provisions of law.

Applications invited for supervisor posts in library centres

Shivamogga

The Shivamogga district administration has invited applications for 14 Supervisor posts in Grama Panchayat Aaruva (knowledge/library) centres across the district. A total of 258 such centres have been established, of which 14 posts are currently vacant. The vacancies are spread across several taluks, including Tirthahalli, Sagar, Bhadravati, Hosanagara, Soraba, Shikaripura, and Shivamogga.

Minister Yathindra reviews Mysuru civic issues and improvements

Minister raised concerns over shop rent hikes, asking officials to reduce rates; current rates remain lower than PWD rates

BENGALURU

Urban Development Minister Dr. Yathindra Siddaramaiah held a meeting with officials of Mysuru City Corporation and Mysuru Development Authority in Bengaluru and reviewed important civic issues affecting the city.

During the meeting, the minister stressed the need to protect Mysuru's reputation as one of the cleanest cities by improving cleanliness, solid waste management, and public services. He said proper garbage segregation and effective underground drainage works are essential to maintain the city's image, especially during the Dasara festival when tourists from across India and abroad visit Mysuru.

The minister also discussed concerns regarding the increase in rent for corporation-owned shops. He said a sudden increase of nearly ten times would create a heavy burden for traders and instructed officials to examine the possibility of reducing the revised rates. Officials explained that the current rates were fixed after a long gap and were still lower compared to the Public Works Department rates.

Dr. Siddaramaiah reviewed lake development projects and instructed officials to prevent sewage from entering water bodies. He suggested changing sewage routes or ensuring proper treatment before releasing water to protect the lakes.

The minister directed officials to provide better facilities for municipal workers and focus on the welfare of their families. He said the 24.1 percent grant should give priority to the education of children of civic workers, including support for school admission expenses. Officials informed that a major portion of the grant is being used for worker welfare and public development activities.

Road development works were also discussed, including white topping and asphalt projects. Officials informed that several important roads are currently being improved.

The minister further instructed urban development authorities to conduct meetings regularly every month to ensure timely decisions and better public services. He also asked officials to review the pricing of CA plots, as the current rates are affecting sales.

Officials informed that 158 houses have been completed under the Pourakarmikar Griha Bhagya Scheme. The minister directed authorities to organize a house allocation programme soon.The meeting was attended by senior officials, including district administration representatives, municipal corporation officials, public works department officers, and water supply board officials. The discussions focused on making Mysuru cleaner, better planned, and more citizen-friendly.

Ramanagara begins major urban development projects

RAMANAGARA

Municipal Corporation President K. Sheshadri launched development works worth Rs 3 crore under the Chief Minister's Urban Development Scheme to improve basic facilities across the city.

The foundation stone was laid for road, drainage and lift installation works in areas including Ambedkar Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, Ambedkar Bhavan, Aizur and Yarab Nagar. Speaking after the ceremony, Sheshadri said the Municipal Corporation is committed to strengthening infrastructure and providing better facilities to residents.

He said several wards, including Yarab Nagar, Tipu Nagar, Mehboob Nagar and wards 1, 2, 27 and 30, require improved civic facilities. Development works are being taken up in phases based on public needs and priority areas.

Contribution matters more than tenure: K. J. P. Hegde

UDUPI

Former minister K. Jayaprakash Hegde said that the effectiveness of a Prime Minister should be judged by contributions to the nation rather than the length of time spent in office, while addressing a press conference in Udupi.

Speaking during a media interaction linked to a Congress awareness campaign on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, he made critical remarks about the current voter list revision process and its possible impact on eligible voters.

Hegde stated that since the era of Jawaharlal Nehru, India has seen the creation of key institutions such as IITs, public sector enterprises, and advancements in atomic energy. He argued that leadership should be evaluated based on long-term nation-building outcomes.

He also criticized the central government, alleging that it failed to deliver on promises such as generating two crore jobs annually. He said welfare schemes introduced by state governments, including Karnataka's guarantee programmes, were responses to economic challenges faced by citizens.

On electoral reforms, he expressed concern that the SIR exercise could lead to deletion of eligible voters from electoral rolls. Congress leaders present at the event claimed that the process may affect voting rights and raised questions about the need for documentation requirements.

Jayadeva Hospital clarifies patient care and staffing concerns

MYSURU

Dr. Dinesh, Director of Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, Bengaluru said that the Jayadeva Hospital receives between 600 and 800 patients every day, of whom nearly 20 percent arrive in critical condition. The primary objective of the institution is to provide treatment and save lives. Patients are admitted based on medical necessity, and the hospital never prioritizes financial considerations over patient care.

He addressed a press conference here on Wednesday and clarified concerns regarding patient care, staffing, and recent reports about treatment outcomes. "Our institution does not look at a patient's financial status before treatment. We first provide the necessary medical care. The doctors here work with complete dedication to the profession".

Referring to the recent cases involving 11 patients, Dr. Dinesh explained that all of them had suffered severe heart attacks and were admitted after the crucial "golden hour" period had already passed. These patients were not admitted on the same day but were treated in the Intensive Care Unit with continuous medical supervision. All 11 patients were elderly and had arrived in extremely critical condition after battling for survival before reaching the hospital. Many of them were also suffering from additional complications such as diabetes. In such circumstances, the chances of survival are generally very low, estimated at around 9 percent.

Rejects allegations

Dr. Dinesh strongly rejected allegations of a shortage of doctors at the hospital, describing such claims as false and misleading. He clarified that there is no shortage of doctors in our hospital. Jayadeva has earned an international reputation for excellence in cardiac care. Some inaccurate reports have been circulated, but they do not reflect the reality. The hospital currently has 40 doctors, including 24 cardiologists, 10 anesthesiologists, one cardiac surgeon, and 10 postgraduate doctors.

He acknowledged that patient numbers have increased since last summer, creating a need for an additional 5 to 8 percent medical staff. A recruitment process to fill 24 doctor vacancies across the state is currently underway.

The State Government has also approved an expansion of 200 additional beds for the hospital, including 60 ICU beds, which is expected to significantly strengthen patient care facilities.

Sub-centre in Chamarajanagar

Looking ahead, Dr. Dinesh announced that a Jayadeva Sub-Centre will be established in Chamarajanagar district within the next two months. Similar sub-centres are planned in other surrounding districts to improve access to specialized cardiac care.

Reiterating the hospital's commitment, he said, "Whether a patient has money or not, Jayadeva Hospital's foremost priority is to provide treatment and save lives."

Greens flays Felling of over 30 trees near Kukkarahalli railway crossing

MYSURU

The environmental organization "Parisarakkaagi Naavu" has strongly condemned the Railway Department for allegedly cutting down more than 30 trees of various species along the railway tracks near the railway level crossing close to Kukkarahalli Lake in Mysuru.

A team of members from the organization visited the site on Wednesday and expressed outrage after witnessing the indiscriminate felling of several large trees estimated to be between 15 and 40 years old. The team demanded strict action against those responsible for the destruction.

The organization stated that railway regulations permit the pruning of tree branches and the removal of dried trees that pose a threat to railway operations, passenger safety, or overhead electrical lines, subject to permission from the Forest Department. However, it alleged that several healthy and mature trees located at a considerable distance from the railway tracks had been cut down without obtaining the required approval from the Forest Department.

According to the organization, the felling of these trees reflects negligence and a violation of legal procedures. It urged the Forest Department to initiate appropriate action against the Railway Department officials and staff responsible, under the provisions of the Tree Protection Act.

The organization also called upon the Divisional Railway Manager, Mysuru Division, South Western Railway, to conduct a departmental inquiry into the incident and take disciplinary action against the officials and staff involved in what it described as an irresponsible act and dereliction of duty.

The organization emphasized that at a time when global warming and climate change are having severe impacts on humans and all living beings, every tree is valuable. It noted that there is an urgent need to plant and nurture more trees rather than destroy existing ones. Citing Article 51A(g) of the Constitution of India, which makes environmental protection a fundamental duty of every citizen, the organization urged the Railway Department to discharge its responsibilities with greater environmental awareness.The delegation from "Parisarakkaagi Naavu" that visited the site included State General Secretary Parashuramegowda, active members Prof. Kalachannegowda, Leela Shivakumar, Prof. Shyamala, Vishwanath, Bhanu Prashanth, Sudheer Ganapathi, Sindhuvalli Akbar, Guruswamy, Hosahundi Krishna, Ganesh, Om Shivacharan, Sarthak, and Mahanthesh. Also present at the site were DRFO Sanjeev K. Patil and Forest Patrol Staff member Nagaraj.

PU TOPPERS FETED WITH MERIT AWARDS AT JSS COLLEGE

MYSURU

JSS Women's Pre-University College organized a Merit Award Ceremony to honour students who secured outstanding results in the 2025–26 Second PUC Annual Examination in Mysuru on Wednesday.

The chief guest, Ms. T. Ramya, Deputy Commissioner of the Commercial Taxes Department, Mysuru, presented the merit awards and shared her experiences with the students.

Addressing the gathering, she said that students today face numerous challenges, but success is achievable through clear goals and determination. She emphasized the importance of guidance from teachers and support from parents while choosing academic and career paths. The students must make constructive use of mobile phones and social media, especially for gathering information and preparing for competitive examinations.

Presiding over the programme, Prof. Morabada Mallikarjuna, Director of the College Education Division of JSS Mahavidyapeetha, highlighted the importance of academic excellence in shaping a successful future and said while securing high ranks is common in Science and Commerce streams, the remarkable performance of students in the Arts stream this year was particularly noteworthy.

He stressed the importance of remembering and appreciating those who inspire and motivate individuals to achieve success. Referring to a moral story, he encouraged students to remain focused until they accomplish their goals.

"NO NEGLIGENCE, NO PANIC"

Minister Dr Patil backs Jayadeva doctors amid death rumours

MYSURU

Seeking to quell public anxiety over reports of eleven deaths at Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, Mysuru, Medical Education Minister Dr. Sharan Prakash Patil categorically ruled out any negligence on the part of doctors and assured that the mortality rate at the institute remains within the national average.

The Minister visited the hospital on Wednesday after social media and media reports triggered concern among citizens regarding the deaths reported within a 24-hour period. Addressing the media, Dr. Patil said there was no reason for panic, explaining that most of the deceased patients had been admitted in an extremely critical condition just two to three days earlier. "Our doctors made every possible effort to save them. However, many patients were elderly and had reached the hospital at an advanced stage of illness. Unfortunately, despite the best treatment, not all lives could be saved," he said.

Emphasising the reputation of Jayadeva Hospital, Dr. Patil noted that the institution has earned national recognition for delivering high-quality and affordable cardiac care. Treatment at Jayadeva costs around ₹60,000, while similar procedures in private hospitals may cost nearly ₹2 lakh. Creating unnecessary panic only benefits private healthcare institutions," he remarked.

The Minister urged media organisations to seek clarification directly from him or the hospital administration before publishing alarming reports. To ensure complete transparency, he directed doctors at the Mysuru unit to prepare detailed mortality reports for each deceased patient. These reports will be submitted to the government and independently evaluated by a third-party expert committee.

"The review will establish whether any of these deaths could have been prevented. However, based on available information, there is no evidence of medical negligence," he asserted.

Decentralisation of powers

In a significant administrative announcement, Dr. Patil revealed that powers would be decentralised within the Jayadeva network. Medical Superintendents of the Mysuru and Kalaburagi units will now be empowered to take key decisions independently, reducing dependence on the Bengaluru headquarters and speeding up administrative processes.

The Minister also highlighted the shortage of specialist doctors and said the government is moving to fill vacant posts, including cardiologists and cardiac surgeons. Recruitment had been delayed due to issues related to internal reservation policies, but officials have now been directed to prepare the necessary roster and expedite appointments.

Reaffirming the government's commitment to strengthening public healthcare, Dr.

Prakash Raj shares SIT details on Dharmasthala case

Prakash Raj said he never visited Dharmasthala regarding the issue, met Veerendra Heggade once, and only sought the truth

BENGALURU

Senior actor Prakash Raj has clarified that he spoke with Chinnaiah, the complainant in the Dharmasthala Burude case, and shared the voice recording of their conversation with the Special Investigation Team (SIT) chief. He said his intention was only to support a fair investigation and not to hurt the sentiments of devotees or any individual.

Addressing the media in Bengaluru, Prakash Raj explained that Chinnaiah had made claims about alleged serial murders in Dharmasthala. Based on those statements, he had earlier requested the then Chief Minister to order a detailed investigation. Later, an SIT was formed to examine the matter.

Prakash Raj said he had never visited Dharmasthala in connection with the issue and had only met Dharmadhikari Veerendra Heggade once. He

stated that he respects the place and the people connected with it, adding that his concerns were only about finding the truth.

He said a person named Girish Mattannavar had contacted him and requested him to speak with Chinnaiah. During the conversation, Chinnaiah allegedly spoke about the case and said he was willing to provide information. Prakash Raj advised him to share all details directly with SIT officials if the claims were true.

According to Prakash Raj, Chinnaiah later sent a recording, following which he consulted his lawyer and contacted SIT officials. He said the recording was handed over to SIT chief Pranav Mohanty, who assured him that the matter would be examined.

The actor also said that he was later advised not to take further calls from Chinnaiah after officials spoke to him. Prakash Raj clarified that he did not join any protests or make statements against Dharmasthala, as it is a place respected by millions of devotees.

He questioned why the discussion was being linked mainly to religious issues instead of focusing on the need for justice. He denied allegations that he was involved in any conspiracy and said some media reports had wrongly portrayed his statements.

Prakash Raj added that he has always raised his voice against social issues without political bias.

QUICK READ

Water supply to face disruption during meter work

Udupi

Drinking water supply in Udupi city is likely to be affected on June 19 due to meter change work at the Baja Drinking Water Plant. The work involves replacing the cubic meter of R.R. No. 6, which comes under the Udupi Municipal Corporation. The Municipal Commissioner's Office informed residents about the temporary disruption through an official statement. Citizens have been advised to make necessary arrangements in advance to avoid difficulties during the supply interruption. The authorities stated that the maintenance work is important for improving the water supply system and ensuring better services for people.

Yoga preparations reviewed ahead of International Day

Mandya

Officials inspected arrangements at PES Engineering College Stadium for International Yoga Day celebrations on June 21. Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumar reviewed the preparations and ensured smooth planning for over 10,000 participants. He directed the Health Department to arrange ambulances, first aid facilities and a blood donation camp. Traffic control and vehicle parking plans were also checked during the visit. The AYUSH Department was asked to follow guidelines carefully for the event. Senior officials including Shivamurthy and K. S. Vijayanand attended the inspection.

NGOs can apply for care facility support funds

Udupi

The Minority Welfare Department has invited proposals from Christian NGOs for financial assistance under the Christian Development Programme. The subsidy will support orphanages, old age homes, and shelters caring for HIV-infected children during the current year. Interested organizations can submit their proposals in duplicate along with required documents before August 31. Officials stated that applications will be reviewed after verification of details. For further information, organizations can contact the District Minority Information Center and other taluk-level centers in Udupi district. The department encouraged eligible groups to apply and use the scheme for improving care facilities.

Byadgi road widening completed with public support

HAVERI

The work of widening the main road in Byadgi town has been completed successfully after years of public demand and planning. S.R. Patil, Vice President of State Guarantee Schemes, said the support from citizens, traders and building owners played an important role in completing the project smoothly.

The Sorab-Gajendragad road was declared a PWD road in 2008, and widening became necessary to meet growing needs. Farmers and traders from different districts visit Byadgi chilli market, causing heavy traffic and safety issues on the busy route.

The government started the widening project to reduce congestion and improve travel conditions. Many property owners voluntarily removed their structures and cooperated with authorities after receiving compensation. The clearance work was completed in about forty days with coordination between the district administration, municipality and officials.

Patil said attention should be given to traders who lost properties during development and alternative arrangements should be provided. He added that public cooperation is essential for transparent and smooth growth of Byadgi town. Another bypass road and ring road are needed to handle future traffic demands and support further development.

The project shows how cooperation between people and authorities can bring positive changes. Officials said such initiatives will help improve infrastructure and create safer roads for residents and visitors across the region.

Government assures transparent implementation of guarantee schemes

CHITRADURGA

State Guarantee Scheme Implementation Authority President H.M. Revanna has reaffirmed the Karnataka government's commitment to ensuring the proper implementation of its five flagship guarantee schemes. He said revisions are necessary to remove loopholes and ensure benefits reach only eligible beneficiaries.

Speaking at a press conference held at the Zilla Panchayat CEO office on Wednesday, Revanna reviewed the progress of the guarantee schemes, discussed technical challenges, and outlined future reforms. He stated that the authority is closely monitoring the implementation process across the state.

Revanna said he has visited 26 of Karnataka's 31 districts since taking charge as president of the authority. Reviews are being conducted regularly at district and taluk levels under senior officials, while a monitoring team of more than 4,000 members is actively involved. He stressed that taxpayer money must be used responsibly and reach poor families and women. He also dismissed claims that the government plans to discontinue the schemes.

Highlighting concerns in the Grihalakshmi Scheme, Revanna said the authority discovered that funds were being transferred to accounts belonging to deceased beneficiaries. Following a review, officials identified 1,44,056 deceased family heads and stopped further payments. Efforts are underway to recover wrongly transferred funds and take action against ineligible persons who may have misused the money.

He also said strict measures are being taken against people attempting to misuse the Griha Jyothi Scheme by artificially dividing homes or using commercial connections as domestic ones. The government is working to ensure that only eligible residents benefit from these schemes. Smart cards for women under the Shakti Scheme will also be introduced soon.

Praising Chitradurga district, Revanna noted that Rs. 3,783 crore has been released under various guarantee schemes, far exceeding the district's earlier annual budget allocation. He said families are saving between Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 6,000 every month due to these benefits.Revanna expressed confidence that Chitradurga could receive recognition for its outstanding implementation efforts. He concluded that the revisions aim only to improve transparency, accountability, and efficiency while ensuring the schemes continue benefiting deserving citizens across Karnataka.

Revanna said he visited 26 Karnataka districts, reviews continue under officials, 4,000 monitors track schemes, ensuring taxpayer funds reach poor families and women

Women empowerment training boosts employment opportunities

HANGAL

Promoting women's empowerment along with job opportunities can help reduce unemployment and improve the economic condition of families, said Vincent Joyce, Director of Loyala Vikas Kendra. He was speaking at the inauguration of a sewing training camp organized by Humanity Foundation's Parivartan Kalika Kendra at Loyala Vikas Kendra in Hangal.

Joyce said the present time demands self-employment, and people who learn new skills with dedication can create better income sources. He encouraged participants to develop confidence, interest and commitment towards learning.

He mentioned that MLA Srinivas Mane has been supporting free skill development programmes for youth and women of Hangal taluk to help them become self-reliant. He urged people to make proper use of these opportunities.

Prof. Maruti, administrator of Parivartan Kalika Kendra, said the centre has been conducting free training programmes for women in areas like Aari work, beautician courses and tailoring. The centre also provides guidance for school and college students preparing for competitive examinations and government jobs.

Maharana Pratap Jayanti highlights values and legacy

BETAGERI

The 486th birth anniversary of Maharana Pratap Singh was celebrated with respect and enthusiasm at Venkateshwara Kalyana Mantapa in Gadag-Betageri. The programme remembered the great warrior's courage, sacrifice and dedication towards protecting his people and values.

Speaking as the chief guest, Dr. Sampath Rangawale, Senior Medical Officer of KMC, said that entertainment has become a major part of modern life, causing many people to forget the history and contributions of their ancestors. He stated that Jayanti celebrations should not only include songs, dances and processions but also focus on understanding the ideals of great personalities.

He described Maharana Pratap Singh as a symbol of sacrifice, self-respect and bravery. He urged people to follow the warrior's principles and remain connected with society.

Dr. Bhim Singh Samorekar of GIMS said that lifestyle changes are creating several challenges and a strong nation must be built on the foundation of history. He added that Maharana Pratap's patriotism and concern for common people should inspire everyone.

Lecturers J.K. Jamadar and S.A. Jamadar recalled how Maharana Pratap fought against powerful forces despite difficulties and dedicated his life to freedom and dignity. They said his actions continue to guide society today.

The event was presided over by Ganesh Singh Bayali, who said Maharana Pratap's ideals remain meaningful even in the present era. Various personalities were honoured during the programme for their achievements.

Journalists rally behind cooperative growth initiative

SRINIVASPUR

A share collection and membership enrolment drive organised by the Kolar–Chikkaballapur District Working Journalists Multipurpose Cooperative Society received an enthusiastic response from journalists at the Taluk Working Journalists' Bhavan in Srinivaspur. The programme attracted a large number of media professionals, exceeding the expectations of the organisers.

The initiative was aimed at improving the financial security, social welfare and professional development of journalists. During the event, many journalists enrolled as shareholders and became members of the cooperative society. Participants were also informed about various welfare schemes and benefits available through the organisation.

Addressing the gathering, Society President K.S. Ganesh said the cooperative society has been working continuously to protect the interests of journalists through several welfare-focused programmes. He explained that members can benefit from low-interest loans, emergency financial assistance, savings plans and other support services designed to meet their needs.

Ganesh also highlighted the advantages of the Yashaswini Health Scheme, which provides access to medical treatment at recognised hospitals. He added that efforts are being made to secure residential sites for journalists through regular representations to the government.

Vice-President Abbani Shankar said greater participation by journalists as shareholders would strengthen the society's financial position and help introduce more welfare initiatives in the future.

Directors Rajendra Simha, Ravi and Shamgar encouraged journalists across the district to join the cooperative society and make use of the available welfare benefits, including healthcare support and loan facilities.

Several office-bearers, senior journalists, members and local media representatives attended the programme. Encouraged by the strong response, the society plans to conduct similar membership and share collection drives in other taluk centres of Kolar and Chikkaballapur districts in the coming days, expanding its reach and support network.

District Magistrate Reviews Malavalli Office Functions

MANDYA

The District Magistrate conducted an unexpected inspection of the Malavalli Taluk Office on Wednesday, and reviewed the functioning of various departments. The visit focused on office activities, pending files, staff attendance and delivery of public services.

During the inspection, the District Magistrate instructed the Tahsildar to receive complaints from citizens visiting the office and ensure that their issues are resolved within the given time frame. He stressed the need for effective implementation of the e-office system and timely disposal of records through digital processes.

The officials were directed to strictly follow government guidelines and warned that negligence in maintaining the e-office system would lead to responsibility being fixed on concerned officers. He also instructed staff members to use the KAASMS duty application and record their attendance through the digital system.

Reviewing pending revenue matters, the Magistrate noted that thousands of e-pauti account cases and Aadhaar seeding applications were pending in the taluk. He directed officials to speed up the process and complete the work without delay.

He advised the Revenue Department to provide services efficiently, including certificates, land-related applications, survey work and Sakala services, without forcing people to make repeated visits to government offices. Officials were told that delays in public services would invite disciplinary action.

The Magistrate also reviewed record maintenance, archive digitisation and housing site initiatives for landless families. He directed officials to identify suitable government land for housing purposes and submit proposals as per rules.

The inspection was attended by senior officers, including Sub-Divisional Officers, Tahsildar and other staff members. The visit aimed to improve administration and ensure faster services for the public.

TOBACCO-FREE-FUTURE

Deputy Commissioner orders tobacco-free zones across district

CHITRADURGA

Deputy Commissioner T. Venkatesh has directed officials to take immediate steps to declare schools, colleges, temples, and government offices across the district as tobacco-free zones. He stressed the need for strict enforcement of tobacco control laws to protect public health and create a safer environment for citizens.

Chairing the quarterly review meeting of the District Tobacco Control Cell under the National Tobacco Control

Programme at the Deputy Commissioner's office, Venkatesh said coordinated efforts by the police, health, education, and local body departments are essential for the effective implementation of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA).

He instructed the Education Department to ensure that all schools and colleges in the district are officially declared tobacco-free. Special emphasis was placed on engineering and medical colleges, where the use of any tobacco product must be completely prohibited within campus premises.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed officials to make all Muzrai temples tobacco-free by issuing suitable guidelines and implementing them effectively. He further stated that government offices should display clear signboards informing visitors about the ban on tobacco use. Continuous monitoring and awareness activities should be carried out, and action must be taken against those violating the rules.

Officials informed the meeting that joint raids by various departments are being conducted regularly to check illegal tobacco sales and public smoking. Awareness campaigns through posters, pamphlets, and public outreach programmes are also being organized across the district.State Tobacco Control Cell Divisional Coordinator Mahantesh Ullagadi said the Karnataka COTPA Amendment Act has introduced stricter regulations.

Two children die in separate tragic incidents

CHITRADURGA

Two children died in separate tragic incidents reported from Chitradurga and Chamarajanagar districts. In Hiriyur, four-year-old Vaishnav complained of a burning feeling in his chest and was taken home after his parents suspected a gastric issue. His condition worsened soon after, and the family rushed him to a hospital. Sadly, he passed away on the way. Doctors suspected a possible heart attack but the exact reason will be known through medical reports.

In Chamarajanagar, four-year-old Advita died after accidental electrocution from a grinder at home. She was playing near the appliance when she touched it and suffered a fatal electric shock. Family members took her to Gundlupet Public Hospital where doctors declared her dead. The two deaths have left both families in deep sorrow. Authorities are investigating the incidents and medical findings are awaited to understand the exact causes behind these unfortunate tragedies.

QUICK READ

Haveri leaders join Red Cross State Committees

Haveri

Two office bearers from Haveri District Branch have been selected for the Indian Red Cross Society's State Branch Sub-Committees. Prabhu Hitnalli, District Treasurer and Blood Bank Chairman, has joined the District Development Sub-Committee. Ningappa M. Arera, District Honorary Secretary, has been appointed to the First Aid Sub-Committee. The appointments were announced through an order issued by the State Branch. Officials and members congratulated the newly appointed representatives and expressed their support for their new responsibilities. The selection recognizes their service and commitment towards the organization's humanitarian work across the district.

New passenger facilities to commence at Kumta Station

Karwar

New passenger facilities at Kumta Railway Station will be inaugurated on June 20 by MP Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri and MLA Dinakar Shetty. During the event, the extension of the Kacheguda–Murudeshwar train service, Train No. 12790/12789, up to Kumta Station will also be flagged off. Konkan Railway Mangalore Division officials announced the development to improve travel convenience for passengers. The upgraded facilities are expected to provide better services and comfort for railway users. The extension of the train route will also benefit passengers travelling between important destinations along the coastal region.

Youth killed by friend after small dispute

Mandya

A youth was allegedly murdered by his friend over a minor issue in Bhimanahalli village of Malavalli taluk. The deceased has been identified as Mahesh, aged 34. Police said the incident happened after an argument related to messages sent by Mahesh to the sister of the accused. The accused, along with other friends, allegedly attacked Mahesh and escaped from the spot. Kirugavalu police have arrested one person in connection with the case and are searching for others involved. A case has been registered, and further investigation is underway to uncover the complete details of the incident.

Karnataka plans Bengaluru region global economic rise

BMR aims for USD 390–420 billion economy and 2.5–3 million jobs by 2037, driving Karnataka's growth

BENGALURU

The Karnataka government has prepared an ambitious roadmap to transform the Bengaluru Metropolitan Region (BMR) into a global economic powerhouse by 2037. The plan aims to strengthen Bengaluru's position in technology, artificial intelligence, advanced manufacturing, innovation, and sustainable development.

A high-level meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary reviewed the roadmap prepared by the Institute for Sustainability, Employment and Growth Foundation. The initiative follows an agreement between the Karnataka government and the foundation to create a detailed regional economic development plan.

The proposed vision targets an economy of USD 390 to 420 billion and the creation of 2.5 to 3 million new jobs by 2037. The BMR, spread across 8,000 square kilometres with a population of around 1.5 crore people, currently has an economy of about USD 149 billion and contributes significantly to Karnataka's overall growth.

Officials said Bengaluru has emerged as a leading technology hub with millions of technology professionals, more than 1,000 Global Capability Centres, and thousands of startups. The region continues to grow in areas such as artificial intelligence, semiconductor design, aerospace, biotechnology, and research.

The government is planning new growth centres inside and outside the existing city limits to promote balanced development. These centres will include industries, information technology, research facilities, manufacturing units, logistics hubs, residential areas, and commercial spaces.

To improve connectivity and reduce traffic pressure, the plan includes major infrastructure projects. These include a 287-kilometre circular rail network, 400 to 500 kilometres of additional metro lines, new rapid transit corridors, expanded suburban rail services, and improved road and airport facilities.

The government also plans to invite investors, industries, researchers, and startups to participate in building these new growth hubs. Workshops with experts and stakeholders will be held to identify opportunities and finalize development strategies.

The final master plan is expected to be presented to senior state leadership in September 2026. Officials said the project focuses on creating a future-ready Bengaluru with strong infrastructure, sustainable growth, and wider economic opportunities for citizens.

District Administration Fully Prepared for June 21 NEET Retest

BAGALKOT

The district administration has completed all necessary arrangements for the smooth, transparent, and error-free conduct of the NEET-UG 2026 retest scheduled for June 21. A preparatory meeting chaired by Deputy Commissioner Sangappa was held on Wednesday to review the arrangements.

The retest will be conducted at 11 examination centers across Bagalkot district, with a total of 3,967 students expected to appear. The Deputy Commissioner directed officials to appoint dedicated personnel to monitor staff movement and ensure proper coordination at each center. Essential facilities, including electricity, drinking water, toilets, and emergency medical services, must be made available for candidates.

Ashraf Addoor elected SDPI Mangaluru city district president

MANGALURU

The Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) held its Mangaluru City District representative meeting at a private hotel in the city, where organisational restructuring and leadership changes were announced.

The meeting was chaired by state president Abdul Majeed Mysuru, who inaugurated the session and addressed party workers on the prevailing political situation in the country. He spoke about the importance of social justice, protection of minority rights, and safeguarding the interests of backward communities.

He emphasized the need to strengthen the party organisation at the grassroots level and called upon workers to actively engage with the public to spread the party's ideological message. He also urged unity among party members to expand organisational reach and effectiveness in the coming period.

During the meeting, a detailed district report was presented by senior office-bearers, including district general secretary Jamal Jokatte, vice president Ayesha Bajpe, and district secretaries Nisar Maravoor and Suhail Khan. A leadership training session was also conducted by state committee member Athaullah Jokatte, focusing on organisational discipline and public outreach strategies.

Another state committee member, Misriya Kannur, delivered the concluding address, highlighting the importance of consistent field-level engagement and community-focused programmes.

Pancha Guarantee Schemes continue support for beneficiaries

MANDYA

Officials reviewed the implementation of Pancha Guarantee Schemes and assured that eligible beneficiaries would continue receiving benefits without interruption across the district.

The District Level Guarantee Schemes Implementation Authority Chairman Chikkalingaiah said steps are being taken to prevent difficulties and ensure that only eligible people receive government support.

At the meeting held at the Zilla Panchayat Mini Hall, officials discussed the progress of various schemes and measures to avoid misuse of public funds.

Authorities explained that the review process aims to remove deceased and ineligible beneficiaries while protecting genuine recipients.

Under the Yuvanidhi scheme, 9946 candidates have registered in the district and 8723 beneficiaries will receive financial assistance through scheduled installments.

Officials also stated that 515 ration applications were received for conversion from APL to BPL and the requests were processed successfully.

During the meeting, members highlighted the Shakti Yojana where women passengers have benefited through free bus travel services.

The transport department reported strong usage and urged officials to ensure smooth distribution of free bus passes to school and college students across the state.

The chairman said no eligible beneficiary should face loss and the schemes must continue reaching people in need.

Before the meeting, the committee congratulated Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar on assuming office and observed condolences for the loss of senior public figures.

Vice Chairman K. Hanumanthaiyya and other members attended the programme along with department officials who reviewed the welfare measures. The administration promised continued monitoring of the schemes to provide timely assistance and maintain transparency in public service delivery for all deserving citizens.

Authorities reviewed schemes to remove ineligible beneficiaries, protect genuine recipients; Yuvanidhi aided 8,723 beneficiaries, while 515 APL-to-BPL ration conversions were processed

Healthy employees deliver better public services: Dr. Dileesh

KARWAR

Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Dr. Dileesh Shashi said that maintaining good physical and mental health helps government employees work with greater energy and efficiency.

He was speaking after inaugurating a district-level health check-up camp organized for officers and staff by the District Administration, Zilla Panchayat and Health and Family Welfare Department at the Zilla Panchayat premises.

Dr. Shashi said employees often face daily work pressure and may ignore their health, but poor health can affect the quality of public service. He advised all staff members to give importance to regular health check-ups and healthy lifestyles.

VIJAYANAGARA SEEKS FASTER ROADS AND SAFER TRAVEL

VIJAYANAGARA

Deputy Commissioner Kavita S. Mannikeri has directed officials to complete the ongoing National Highway construction works in Vijayanagara district at the earliest and ensure smooth movement of vehicles. She said delays in road projects are causing difficulties for the public and must be resolved quickly.

Chairing the district-level committee meeting at the Deputy Commissioner's office in Hospet, she reviewed the progress of works being carried out by the National Highways Authority of India and highway department officials.

The Deputy Commissioner said the land acquisition process for highway projects has already been completed and there are no major issues. However, she pointed out that people are facing problems due to unfinished works at certain locations. She instructed officials to identify areas with poor service roads and unsafe connections and take immediate corrective measures.

She also directed authorities to install proper signboards, barricades, night warning lights, and solar blinkers near highways. Service roads and underpasses should be constructed scientifically to improve safety. Officials were asked to complete three major bridge works, including one at Danapur and two near Alur, within the given deadline.

During the meeting, Mannikeri raised concerns over wildlife safety after three leopards were killed in road accidents near Kamalapur and Venkatapur. She suggested installing protective barricades on highway stretches and asked officials to plant new trees along roadsides to replace those removed during construction.

In a separate road safety review meeting, the Deputy Commissioner stressed the need to reduce accidents in the district. She instructed police and Public Works Department officials to identify accident-prone areas on national and state highways and implement safety measures.

OFFICIALS PLAN STEPS TO IMPROVE ROAD SAFETY

MADIKERI

Deputy Commissioner S.J. Somashekhar has directed officials to take strong measures to prevent road accidents during the rainy season and ensure safer travel for the public.

He was speaking at the District Road Safety Committee meeting held at the Deputy Commissioner's office. He instructed departments to identify accident-prone areas across the district and implement suitable safety measures immediately.

The Deputy Commissioner said warning boards, traffic signs and road markings should be installed at dangerous locations. He also advised officials to place barricades wherever required to encourage drivers to follow traffic rules.

During the meeting, officials reviewed decisions from the previous road safety meeting and discussed the progress made by different departments.

National Highway officials informed that warning boards would be installed on the Sampaje-Kushalnagar highway. Somashekhar directed the Highway and Police Departments to work together and maintain details of safety boards already placed on roads.

Officials raised concerns about vehicles being parked on both sides of the road near Bhadrakali Temple on the Madikeri-Kushalnagar route, affecting traffic movement. They suggested installing no-parking boards at such locations.

The meeting also discussed increasing accident risks on the Madikeri-Katakery road. Officials were advised to install reflective stickers and safety markings to improve visibility for motorists.

Public Works Department Executive Engineer K.T. Prabhu explained traffic control measures introduced in Gonikoppa and Virajpet towns, including parking restrictions and temporary traffic arrangements.

District Superintendent of Police R.N. Bindumani highlighted problems caused by tourist vehicle parking on Forest House Road and urged immediate action.

SAFE-CHILDHOOD-MISSION

Child rights awareness programme held at Kanakagiri School

KOPPALA

An awareness programme on child rights, laws and safety was organised at Karnataka Public School in Kanakagiri to educate students about protecting children and understanding legal provisions.

The programme was jointly organised by the District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, Police Department, Women and Child Development Department, School Education Department, District Child Protection Unit and local bodies.

District Child Protection Officer Sindhu Angadi inaugurated the event and said that children are facing new challenges due to social media influence. She warned that some minors are becoming involved in cases under the POCSO Act without understanding the consequences.

She explained that the POCSO Act, 2012, with amendments in 2019, protects children from sexual offences. She said strict punishment is provided for those who harm children or encourage such activities.

Kanakagiri Police Inspector V. Narayana advised people to report cases involving abandoned children, child labour, child marriages or abuse to the authorities. He said child protection homes and adoption centres are available to support children in need.

Protection Officer Ravikumar Pawara said child marriage is illegal and cases involving minors attract serious punishment. He added that several child marriage cases have been registered in the district and legal action has been taken against offenders.

The programme was presided over by Amaresh Devara, incharge Vice-Principal of Kanakagiri Government Pre-University College. Education officials, school staff and students participated in the event.

The organisers stressed that awareness among children and society is important to prevent exploitation and ensure a safer environment.

NEET UG re-exam preparations reviewed by Deputy Commissioner

MADIKERI

Deputy Commissioner S.J. Somashekhar reviewed the preparations for the NEET UG-2026 re-examination scheduled to be held on June 21 in Madikeri.

The Deputy Commissioner received details from the NEET re-exam nodal officer, Kendriya Vidyalaya Principal Bhagyanandan, examination centre supervisor, Government Pre-University College Principal Vijay and Deputy Director of School Education Department Basavaraju.

Somashekhar instructed officials to conduct the examination smoothly without any confusion or difficulties. He directed authorities to install CCTV cameras in all rooms of the examination centre and place registration number boards to help students identify their rooms easily.

He also ordered arrangements for clean drinking water, electricity supply, required vehicles and proper security near the examination centre. The officials were told to strictly follow all examination rules, including handling question papers and sending answer sheets.

QUICK READ

Bus accident death toll touches 7, HM Shah expresses grief

Vadodara

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday expressed condolences over the fatal luxury bus accident on the Vadodara-Jarod Road in Gujarat, as the death toll from the crash rose to seven and 28 people were injured, including two in critical condition. In a post on the social media platform X, HM Shah described the incident as extremely tragic and said his condolences were with the families of those who had lost their loved ones. He said the local administration was providing medical facilities to the injured and prayed for their speedy recovery. The accident that occurred on the Vadodara-Jarod Road in Gujarat is extremely tragic. My condolences are with those who have lost their loved ones in this accident.

'Govt taken foolproof measures': Students on IAF overseeing NEET-UG

Chandigarh

With the Indian Air Force (IAF) tasked with the transportation of NEET-UG re-test question papers, students on Wednesday said that the government appears to have taken foolproof measures this time, but some added that the authorities had failed them once before, making it difficult to place complete trust in the system again. Talking to IANS, a student said: The government appears to have taken foolproof measures this time. Paper setters were quarantined, the transportation of papers is being handled by the Air Force, and the papers are being stored securely, reducing the chances of any leak. However, the damage caused by the earlier paper leak cannot be undone.

Oost-poll violence: TMC leader Udayan Guha arrested

Kolkata

Udayan Guha, the former West Bengal Minister in charge of the North Bengal Development Department in the previous Mamata Banerjee-led cabinet, was arrested on Wednesday from his residence in Phoolbagan, Kolkata. Although the officials are yet to specify the exact charges under which Guha was arrested, sources said police had been trying to track him for some time. However, a source in the state police said the former minister is accused of involvement in post-poll violence in his native district of Cooch Behar following the 2021 West Bengal

Raj sees fierce political activity well before assembly elections

The intensity of rhetoric, revival of old rivalries, and the increasing frequency of public mobilisations suggest that state's political landscape is already in poll mode.

JAIPUR

Although the next Rajasthan Assembly elections are still more than two years away, the state's political atmosphere is increasingly resembling that of an election season.

Frequent political rallies, sharp exchanges between leaders, protests on public issues, and renewed debates over past controversies have intensified political activity, prompting discussions about whether the state has entered campaign mode much earlier than expected.

The latest political focus is the visit of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to Kota, where he is set to launch the party's nationwide Chhatron Ki Goonj campaign. By selecting Kota, widely known as India's coaching and education hub, the Congress aims to broaden the discussion surrounding student concerns beyond recurring issues such as examination paper leaks, recruitment irregularities, and educational reforms.

Even before Gandhi's arrival, political tensions escalated. Congress leaders accused the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party of removing posters related to the event, an allegation rejected by BJP leaders. The ruling party described the Congress programme as a form of political tourism rather than a serious effort to engage with students and the public.

Simultaneously, Rajasthan has witnessed renewed tensions within the Congress itself. Former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot have once again exchanged remarks regarding past political disputes. Gehlot revisited the 2020 political crisis and developments that unfolded in 2022, claiming that attempts were made to prevent him from contesting the Congress president's election. He maintained that the rebellion during that period was aimed at weakening his position.

Responding to the remarks, Pilot suggested that truthfulness could be judged by looking directly into a person's eyes. However, both leaders later sought to ease tensions. Pilot spoke of the cordial relationship between their families, while Gehlot recalled knowing Pilot since childhood and emphasized their long-standing association.

The political exchanges extended beyond Congress. Gehlot also targeted Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, who responded by reviving allegations linked to the phone-tapping controversy that had generated significant debate during the previous Congress government. The issue gained further attention after former government official Lokesh Sharma made fresh claims related to alleged surveillance activities.

Meanwhile, Hanuman Beniwal, convenor of the Rashtriya Loktantrik Party, has intensified criticism of both the Congress and BJP. Beniwal has actively participated in protests across the state and has sought to position himself as a vocal advocate on several public issues.

Stringent measures in place in MP ahead of NEET-UG re-test

The NEET-UG re-exam to be held in 283 centres across 30 districts of the state from 2 pm to 5:15 pm on June 21.

BHOPAL

The Madhya Pradesh government has intensified preparations for the upcoming NEET-UG re-examination, implementing a series of stringent security measures aimed at ensuring the examination is conducted smoothly, fairly, and transparently.

CM reviews arrangements

Cief Minister Mohan Yadav on Wednesday reviewed the arrangements and directed officials to leave no room for irregularities during the nationwide medical entrance test.

Addressing reporters, the Chief Minister stated that the state government has been maintaining continuous coordination with the Central government regarding the examination process.

He emphasized that all arrangements are being made in accordance with guidelines issued by the Centre to prevent any recurrence of controversies and irregularities that had previously raised concerns among students and parents.

The NEET-UG re-examination is scheduled to be conducted at 283 examination centres spread across 30 districts of Madhya Pradesh. Given the scale of the examination and the large number of candidates expected to appear, the government has instructed district administrations to adopt comprehensive security and monitoring mechanisms.

During a review meeting with senior officials, Yadav directed the Higher Education Department to complete the installation of biometric verification systems, CCTV surveillance cameras, and signal jammers at all examination centres by June 19. These technologies are intended to strengthen identity verification procedures and prevent any form of electronic malpractice.

SBSP chief claims opposition defections may reshape Uttar Pradesh politics amid escalating allegations and speculation.

Rajbhar predicts major rift in UP SP, claims leaders eye BJP

LUCKNOW

Political temperatures rose sharply in Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday after minister and Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party chief Om Prakash Rajbhar claimed that the Samajwadi Party could soon face an internal split, with several leaders and MPs 'preparing' to join the ruling BJP.

His remarks have sparked fresh political debate in the state, where preparations for future electoral battles are already intensifying.

Drawing comparisons with political developments witnessed in West Bengal and Maharashtra, he suggested that Uttar Pradesh could soon experience a similar realignment within opposition ranks.

Rajbhar said a recent interaction involving senior Samajwadi Party leader Ram Gopal Yadav and Home Minister Amit Shah indicated possible unrest within the opposition party. He alleged that a letter submitted by Ram Gopal Yadav contained information regarding party leaders and MPs who may be considering a political switch.

The minister claimed that if the letter did not contain details of potential defectors, there would be no reason to keep its contents confidential. He challenged the Samajwadi Party leadership to make the document public and clarify its purpose. However, no official confirmation has emerged regarding the existence or contents of any such letter.

He said developments similar to those seen in parties such as the Trinamool Congress and factions of the Shiv Sena could occur within the Samajwadi Party. His comments have added to speculation about the stability of opposition alliances and internal dynamics ahead of future polls.

The minister also linked his allegations to ongoing discussions surrounding past controversies, including the alleged mining scam and the Gomti River Front project case. In a social media post earlier in the day, he suggested that increasing scrutiny of these matters could be contributing to anxiety within sections of the opposition.

The remarks were directed at the party led by former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav. Rajbhar alleged that political pressure and investigations could trigger shifts in loyalty among some leaders, although he did not provide concrete evidence to support his claims.

He criticized the SP's recent outreach efforts toward the Brahmins and argued that certain controversial statements made by party representatives had damaged its relationship with sections of the electorate and could undermine attempts to broaden its support base.

Shiv Sena-UBT's Priyanka Chaturvedi Backs Sanjay Raut's Allegation

NEW DELHI

Shiv Sena-UBT leader Priyanka Chaturvedi on Wednesday backed party MP Sanjay Raut's allegation that monetary transactions were involved to lure party leaders into the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena, calling it Operation Betrayal.

In a series of posts on X, Raut had sarcastically said: Apna Sapna Money Money! It's shocking and revolting that Maharashtra MPs are reportedly being offered Rs 15 crore each tonight to switch sides.

Chaturvedi said: If he (Raut) has made such a claim, he must have received some information, which is why he is speaking about it.

Referring to the rift within the Trinamool Congress, she said: If we look at the entire background and the way these issues have repeatedly surfaced, including what happened with the Trinamool Congress, and how MP Mahua Moitra has spoken about the kind of adjustments that were made with her and with other MPs, I would not be surprised by such allegations.

Even the kids in Maharashtra now know that today honesty can be bought as well as sold (with money), she remarked.Chaturvedi asserted that it is not justified if somebody who has won on a particular party's symbol later says that 'I won't give up my seat but will leave the party'. And this is happening for the second time in two years, she said, citing the previous split in the Shiv Sena.I will call it Operation Betrayal (rather than Operation Tiger), the Shiv Sena-UBT leader said.She added: It is very simple, if someone is disappointed (in the party), he or she can resign and again contest on their own. The (Lok Sabha) Speaker is a constitutional post, so we met him to convey our stand.She said that even now, the case between both factions of the Shiv Sena is underway in the Supreme Court.

2 killed, 8 injured as bus touches overhead live wire in Bihar's Nalanda

PATNA

At least two people were killed, and eight others sustained serious burn injuries in Bihar's Nalanda district when a passenger bus carrying labourers came into contact with an 11,000-volt high-tension power line in the Pawapuri police station area.

According to preliminary reports, the bus was transporting around 50-60 labourers who were returning to their village, Ghosrawa, after working at a brick kiln in Narkatiaganj, West Champaran district.

A bicycle placed on the roof of the bus allegedly touched an overhead high-voltage electricity line as the vehicle passed through the area.

AUTOMATIC WEATHER MONITORING STATION BECOMES OPERATIONAL IN J&K'S KISHTWAR

JAMMU

Weather forecasting capabilities in Jammu and Kashmir have received a significant boost with an automatic weather monitoring station in Kishtwar district becoming operational on Wednesday, Met Department officials said.

Officials said the newly operational facility in the remote Machail region of Kishtwar is providing real-time meteorological data, a development expected to enhance weather forecasting, climate observation, and early warning mechanisms in the mountainous area.

The installation assumes particular importance given Machail's rugged topography and its vulnerability to rapidly changing weather conditions.

Accurate and timely weather information is expected to assist authorities in monitoring atmospheric conditions and issuing advisories whenever required.

According to officials, the station will continuously record key weather parameters, including temperature, rainfall, humidity, wind speed, and other meteorological indicators, thereby strengthening the region's forecasting network.

Officials said the weather station forms part of broader efforts to augment meteorological infrastructure in remote and strategically important regions of Jammu and Kashmir.

Woman Maoist leader carrying Rs 10 lakh reward surrenders before Kolkata police

KOLKATA

In a major success for the West Bengal police, top Maoist leader Shakuntala Mahato alias Pushpa surrendered before Kolkata Police on Wednesday afternoon, officials said.

She had fled from the Saranda forest in Jharkhand during the operation by the joint forces. Amid speculation about her hiding in West Bengal, the Maoist leader and CPI (Maoist) zonal committee member on Wednesday surrendered at Kolkata Police headquarters in Lalbazar along with arms and 46 rounds of bullets. She had a bounty of Rs 10 lakh on her head.

Give up arms, join mainstream: Shakuntala

According to the police, Pushpa was the mastermind of several Maoist operations. While surrendering, she said, "Those of our party who are still isolated should try to return to the mainstream. The current government is doing a lot of good work. It is good for everyone to give up arms and join the development."

Shakuntala hails from Mechua village of Belpahari police station area in West Bengal's Jhargram. After joining the Maoist group, she was known by several names, like Pari, Barsha, and Pushpa. Although she had four names in the Maoist squad, she was known as 'Lutun' near her home. There was talk that she might surrender.

She had joined the Maoist camp at the age of just 10. Although she was admitted in the fifth grade, she did not set foot in high school.

While singing and playing in the Naxalite organisation, she picked up a gun. During the Left Front regime, the police were desperately looking for Shakuntala. So she was sent to the Pareshnath hills in present-day Jharkhand.

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ನಂ:ಪುಸ(04)/ವಹಿ– /2026–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 15–06–2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Haveri Uban Development Authority has invited for the following indent numbered work for the Providing clothing and equipment needed for the rainy season and winter For PK servants at CMC Haveri, TMC Byadgi, TMC Savanur TMC Hangal and TP Rattihalli Charge under the provisions of Two Covers System KG-3 through KPPP.

Sl. No.	Indent Number	Package Amount (In Lakhs)	EMD amount (In Lakhs)
1	DMA/2026-27/IND6234	**64.50**	**1.36**

(1) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders : **26/06/2026**, Time 5-30 PM (2) Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid : **30/06/2026**, Time 10-30 AM (3) Date and Time for Opening of Financial Bid : **02/07/2026**,Time 10.30 AM

Note : (1) The undersigned reserves the right to postpone the tender process/cancel the tender completely/reject the tender without assigning any reason. (2) Any changes in the said tenders will not be published in the newspapers, instead the changes will be published only on the KPPP portal.

Interested tenderers can download the tender documents and further information from om the Karnataka Government e-Procurement Portal website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell, Haveri
DIPR/HAVERI/163/KSMCA/2026-27

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ & ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ತುಮಕೂರು. ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 0816 – 2278387,
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ : dhotumkur@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಜಿ.ಆ.ತು./ಸಿ(1)/08/2026–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 12–06–2026

ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಅ.ಕು.ಕ. 619 ಹೆಚ್.ಎಸ್.ಹೆಚ್. 2022 ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ದಿನಾಂಕ : 17–01–2024 ಹಾಗೂ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರ ಸುತ್ತೋಲೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : HFM/MOS/MIS/05/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 08–06–2026 ರ ಆದೇಶನುಸಾರ ತುಮಕೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ ಅಧೀನದಲ್ಲಿನ 18 ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ ವೈದ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ 17 ತಜ್ಞ ವೈದ್ಯರುಗಳ (ರೇಡಿಯಾಲಜಿಸ್ಟ್ – 04, ಮಕ್ಕಳ ತಜ್ಞರು – 07, ಪ್ರಸೂತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ತ್ರೀರೋಗ ತಜ್ಞರು – 01, ಚರ್ಮರೋಗ ತಜ್ಞರು – 01, ಅರವಳಿಕೆ – 03, ಜನರಲ್ ಸರ್ಜನ್ – 01), ಎದುರು ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಎಂ.ಬಿ.ಬಿ.ಎಸ್. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ ವೈದ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾಸಿಕ ರೂ. 60,000/–, ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ನಾತಕೋತ್ತರ ಪದವಿ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ತಜ್ಞ ವೈದ್ಯರುಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾಸಿಕ ರೂ. 1,10,000/– ರಂತೆ ಸಂಚಿತ ವೇತನದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ Walk in Interview (ನೇರ ಸಂದರ್ಶನದ) ಮೂಲಕ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳನ್ನು ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಲು ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ದಿನಾಂಕ : 22–06–2026 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ರಿಂದ 1.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ನೇರ ಸಂದರ್ಶನದ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಗೊಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳೂ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗಿ ಹೆಸರನ್ನು ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಸಂದರ್ಶನಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗಲು ಸೂಚಿಸಿದೆ. ಸಂದರ್ಶನದ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಮೂಲ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ದೃಢೀಕೃತ ಜೆರಾಕ್ಸ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ ಕೋರುವವರು ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಸಂದರ್ಶನದ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಭ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ತುಮಕೂರು ಇವರನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 94498 43064.

ಸಹಿ/–ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ & ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ತುಮಕೂರು.
ಡಿಐಪಿಆರ್/ತುಮಕೂರು/38/ಮಣಿಪಾಲ್/2026–27

INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK
Jayanagar 7th block Branch, No.253
Jayanagar 7th block Branch, Kanakapura Road, Jayanagar 7th Block, Bangalore-560070,
Mob:8925950842, Email Id:iob0842@lob.bank.in

LOCKER BREAK OPEN NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the persons concerned and public in general that the persons named under this notice have availed the facility of safe deposit lockers at the above mentioned branch of Indian Overseas Bank. The respective branch has already addressed notices/reminder letters by registered post with acknowledgment due (AD) to locker hirers at the address available as per our Bank records with a request to remit the arrears of Locker rent. The said letters were returned. Despite of these notices, the locker hirers have not contacted the branch and have not remitted the locker rent arrears as demanded by the bank. Below named Locker hirers/Legal heirs of locker hirers are requested to consider this as the **BREAK OPEN NOTICE** and contact the Branch concerned with necessary documents and remit the locker rent arrears within **15 days from the date of publication of this notice** failing which the Bank will break open the locker without any further notice or intimation at the cost and sole risk of the hirers or their legal representatives/heirs.

S. No	Locker Number	Locker rent Arrears & late Fee Charges	Locker Hirer & Address
1	**10001**	13,700+GST+PENALTY	**Mr. Jayaram K** **Address:** No2, DOOR NO-181 JYOTSNA NILAYA 6TH MAIN ROAD 4TH PHASE 7THBLOCK BANASHANKARI 3RD STAGE BANGALORE-560085
2	**10031**	30,343+GST +PENALTY	**G Venkateshwar** **Address:**344/18 JAYANAGAR 7TH BLOCK BANGALORE-560070
3	**10046**	11,600+GST+PENALTY	**Dr. Hemalath A Iswar** **Address:** 189 7th BLOCK JAYANAGAR BANGALORE-560082
4	**20003**	6,800+GST+PENALTY	**Aruna Bajaj** **Address:** 643 7th BLOCK JAYANAGAR BANGALORE-560070

For Further Details Contact: The Branch Manager,Indian Overseas Bank, Jayanagar 7th block Branch, Mobile No : 8925950842

Sd/-
INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK

QUICK READ

Aadhaar enrolment surpasses population: Himanta Sarma

Guwahati
Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday raised concerns over Aadhaar enrolment figures in certain districts of the state, claiming that the number of Aadhaar cards issued has exceeded the projected population in some areas, a development he described as a potential demographic red flag in the border state. In a post on the social media platform X, CM Sarma said that Aadhaar saturation in a few districts has crossed the 100 per cent mark, indicating that more Aadhaar cards have been issued than the estimated population of those districts. In certain districts of Assam, Aadhaar enrolment has surpassed the total population, which in a border state like ours, reeks of a larger demographic conspiracy, the Chief Minister wrote.

Bird hits Air India flight while landing at Raipur airport

New Delhi
An Air India flight arriving from Delhi was struck by a bird while landing at Raipur Airport on Wednesday morning. According to the Raipur Airport Authority, the aircraft encountered a bird hit during its approach and landing. Despite the incident, the flight landed safely without any reported injuries to passengers or crew members. Following the occurrence, Air India carried out the prescribed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to assess the condition of the aircraft and ensure operational safety. Airport officials said the necessary inspections and checks were conducted in line with established aviation safety protocols. After the completion of all required procedures, the aircraft was cleared for further operations.

Agencies flag Gujjar's growing role in ISI driven by money

New Delhi
The ISI has managed to stitch together a well-oiled network of gangsters to carry out attacks in India. The name of Shahzad Bhatti has cropped up in several cases that the police are investigating. Officials say that while Bhatti runs the show of planning and execution, his close aide, Ajmal Gujjar, is in charge of the smuggling network. Gujjar operates out of Pakistan and is a key player in this racket, officials also say. Gujjar operates under the ISI and was roped in to assist Bhatti. An Intelligence Bureau official says that both Bhatti and Gujjar run the network that has been tasked with carrying out attacks in India. Bhatti, who was an influencer before being roped in by the ISI, handles all operations on social media.

Bhagwat highlights Maharana Pratap's legacy of resistance

At an event in Udaipur, the RSS chief hails Maharana Pratap's struggle, emphasizing national resilience and historical resistance against invaders.

JAIPUR

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat on Wednesday said that India's history is not a story of submission but one of continuous resistance against foreign invasions.

Speaking at a gathering in Udaipur, Bhagwat highlighted the legacy of Maharana Pratap and described the Battle of Haldighati as a symbol of collective societal determination to preserve freedom, self-respect, and cultural identity.

Bhagwat was addressing the 'Rashtra Chetna Sankalp Sabha' organized at the Gandhi Maidan in Udaipur to commemorate the 486th birth anniversary of Maharana Pratap and the 450th anniversary of the Battle of Haldighati. The event drew participants from various sections of society who gathered to pay tribute to the celebrated Rajput ruler.

During his address, Bhagwat said that Maharana Pratap's birth anniversary is now observed across the country with pride and reverence. According to him, this widespread remembrance demonstrates that the nation continues to honor historical figures who dedicated their lives to protecting independence, cultural values, and national dignity during challenging times.

The RSS chief stated that

the Battle of Haldighati was not merely a military confrontation involving Maharana Pratap and his forces but represented the resistance of an entire society against external domination. He emphasized that despite possessing limited financial resources, a smaller army, and fewer military advantages, Maharana Pratap refused to surrender or compromise his principles.

Bhagwat noted that the Mughal Empire enjoyed significant advantages during the conflict, including superior manpower, resources, and weaponry. However, he argued that Maharana Pratap's determination and commitment to the cause of freedom allowed him to continue resisting despite overwhelming odds.

Referring to historical accounts, Bhagwat said that even records written by Mughal historians indicate that Mughal forces faced difficulties during various phases of the conflict. He argued that such accounts raise important questions about conventional interpretations of the battle and who ultimately emerged victorious.

According to Bhagwat, Indian society has historically demonstrated a strong spirit of resistance whenever attempts were made to impose foreign control.

He maintained that throughout history, efforts to dominate the country were met with immediate opposition from local rulers, communities, and ordinary citizens determined to preserve their autonomy. The RSS chief also remarked that historical events have often been interpreted through particular narratives over time.

Thapa resigns as GTA chief a day after Adhikari ordered probe

KOLKATA

The Bharatiya Gorkha Prajatantrik Morcha (BGPM) founder, Anit Thapa, on Wednesday resigned as the Chief Executive of the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA), the autonomous body managing the civic affairs in the hills of Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Kurseong in North Bengal.

His resignation comes just 24 hours after West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari, at a public meeting in Kurseong, announced a probe into the alleged rampant corruption in the functioning of the GTA.

BGPM is the hill ally of the previous ruling party in West Bengal, Trinamool Congress. Thapa occupied the chair of the Chief Executive of the GTA in 2022. As per schedule, his tenure in that chair was supposed to be till 2027.

PM to disburse employment incentives under PM-VBRY

NEW DELHI

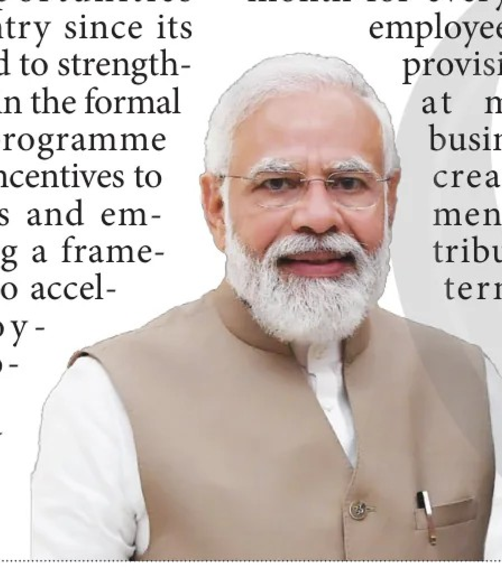
Prime Minister Narendra Modi will disburse incentives worth approximately Rs 2,400 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PM-VBRY) during a special programme scheduled for Friday.

The initiative is part of the government's broader strategy to promote formal employment, support first-time workers, and encourage businesses to generate new jobs.

According to the Prime Minister's Office, the scheme has already contributed to the creation of nearly 15 lakh employment opportunities across the country since its launch. Designed to strengthen participation in the formal economy, the programme offers financial incentives to both employees and employers, creating a framework intended to accelerate employment-led economic growth.

One of the key features of the scheme is support for first-time employees entering the workforce. Eligible beneficiaries can receive incentives of up to Rs 15,000, providing financial assistance during the early stages of their careers. The government believes that such support can ease the transition into formal employment while encouraging more young people to join organized sectors of the economy.

The scheme also provides benefits to employers who create additional jobs. Companies and establishments that expand their workforce are eligible to receive incentives of up to Rs 3,000 per month for every additional employee hired. This provision is aimed at motivating businesses to increase recruitment and contribute to long-term employment generation.



Recognizing the crucial role of manufacturing in economic development, the programme offers extended support to employers operating in the manufacturing sector. Such employers can avail incentives for a period of four years, while businesses in other sectors are eligible for benefits for two years. The government expects this approach to encourage industrial expansion and strengthen India's manufacturing ecosystem.

Introduced in August 2025, the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana has a total financial outlay of Rs 99,446 crore. The scheme is designed to facilitate the creation of more than 3.5 crore jobs over a two-year period. Of the projected beneficiaries, approximately 1.92 crore are expected to be first-time entrants into the workforce, highlighting the programme's focus on youth employment.

Government officials describe the initiative as a significant step toward expanding formal employment opportunities and increasing social security coverage for workers.

Jabil opens AI manufacturing unit in Maharashtra

NEW DELHI

Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw on Wednesday said India is steadily emerging as a trusted global partner in electronics manufacturing as he inaugurated a new advanced manufacturing facility established by Jabil in Maharashtra.

The facility is expected to play a significant role in supporting the rapidly growing global demand for artificial intelligence infrastructure.

Located at Ranjangaon near Pune, the state-of-the-art manufacturing plant will produce critical components used in AI data centres. The project aligns with the government's broader vision of strengthening domestic manufacturing capabilities while expanding India's presence in global technology supply chains.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Vaishnaw and Devendra Fadnavis. Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister highlighted the importance of advanced manufacturing in driving economic growth and enhancing India's technological competitiveness.

As per ccording to Vaishnaw, the new facility reflects Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Make in India, Make for the World.

MP on high alert ahead of Murmu's 5-day state visit

INDORE

Security has been tightened across Madhya Pradesh in view of President Droupadi Murmu's scheduled two-day visit to Omkareshwar.

Director General of Police Kailash Makwana has instructed police officials in all districts to remain extra vigilant and ensure smooth maintenance of law and order during this period. President Murmu is on five-day visit to Madhya Pradesh.

She is set to arrive in Omkareshwar via Indore on June 18.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD Ramanagara Special Division, Ramanagara,
Bangalore South District.

Short Term Tender Notification No.: 04/2026-27 Date : 17-06-2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited in **Two Cover System** from the eligible Contractors for **07 Work from Rs. 470.00 Lakhs** through E-procurement Portal as per the Standard Bid Documents. The eligible Contractors can participate in this tender through E-procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

1) Documents May be Downloaded from 19-06-2026 to 29-06-2026, 2) Last Date for Submission of Tender 29-06-2026 upto 16.00 hours. 3) Date of Pre-Bid Meeting : 24-06-2026 at 11.30 hours, 4) Date of Opening of Technical Bid : 30-06-2026 (If possible) at 11.30 hours.

Tender Processing Fees, EMD as per E-procurement. For more information contact the undersigned during Office Hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD, Special Division, Ramanagara,
Bangalore South District.

DIPR/Ramanagar/120/Manipal/2026-27

MCOCA CASE: DELHI COPS GETS SC NOTICE ON CONMAN'S WIFE'S BAIL PLEA

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday issued notice to the Delhi Police on a bail plea filed by Leena Maria Paul, wife of alleged conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar, in a case registered under the stringent Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA) arising out of the Rs 200 crore extortion racket.

A bench of Justices Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul M. Pancholi sought a response from the Delhi Police and posted the matter for further hearing on July 27.

Paul has challenged a Delhi High Court judgment refusing her regular bail in the MCOCA case linked to the alleged extortion syndicate headed by Chandrashekhar.

However, she had earlier secured bail in the parallel money laundering proceedings investigated by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

According to the prosecution,

the case stems from an FIR registered by the Delhi Police Special Cell in August 2021 on a complaint alleging that Chandrashekhar and his associates extorted around Rs 217 crore from the wife of a businessman on the pretext of securing legal relief for her husband. The prosecution further alleged that Chandrashekhar operated the extortion network from jail with the help of associates and corrupt prison officials, while Paul played an active role in handling and channelising the proceeds of crime.In a judgment delivered on May 5, the Delhi High Court had declined to grant bail to Paul, holding that the allegations and material on record prima facie indicated her involvement in the activities of the alleged organised crime syndicate.

A single-judge Bench of Justice Prateek Jalan observed that an earlier Delhi High Court judgment had already recorded prima facie findings that Paul was involved in running an organised crime syndicate since 2013 with the motive of pecuniary gain by cheating and extortion.

The judge further recorded that she was allegedly in continuous contact with Chandrashekhar while he was lodged in jail, coordinated with his associates, facilitated disposal of crime proceeds and made the payment for the 'Silent Calling App' used by Chandrashekhar to allegedly commit the foundational crime of extortion.

Government of Karnataka
DISTRICT HOSPITAL VIJAYAPURA
(HEAL AND FAMILY WELFARE SERVICES)
Office of the District Surgeon, District Hospital Vijayapura
Telephone No: 08352-270009, E-mail: dsbijapur@gmail.com
No: DHV/DIET/Tender/2026-27 **Date: 16.06.2026**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

Subject: Invitation for Tenders through the E-Procurement Portal for the Supply of Prepared Diet/Nutritional Food to In-patients of the District Hospital, Vijayapura for the Financial Year 2026-27.
Online tenders are hereby invited through the Government E-Procurement Portal under the Two Cover System from eligible, reputed and experienced dietary service providers/contractors for the supply of prepared diet/nutritional food to the in-patients of the District Hospital, Vijayapura, for the financial year 2026-27. Details given below.

Sl. No	Details of Tender	Tender Amount	EMD Amount	Tender Number	Remarks
01	Supply of prepared diet/nutritional food to the in-patients of the District Hospital, Vijayapur	1,09,00,000/-	1,09,000/-	DHFWS/2026-27/ SE2224	

Critical Dates and Schedule

Sl. No	Event / Activity	Date & Time
1	Last Date for Submitting Objections regarding the Tender	20.06.2026 up to 4.00 PM
2	Last Date for Submitting of Food Samples	20.06.2026 up to 4.00 PM
3	Last Date and Time for Uploading Tender Forms	24.06.2026 up to 4.00 PM
4	Date of Opening / Downloading Technical Bids	26.06.2026 from 10.30 AM onwards
5	Date of Opening / Downloading Financial Bids	29.06.2026 from 10.30 AM onwards

Brief Scope of Work
The Selected bidder will be responsible for the hygienic preparation, handling, transport and timely distribution of prescribed therapeutic and general diets to the indoor patients admitted at the District Hospital, Vijayapura, adhering strictly to the nutritional guidelines provided by the hospital administration.
General Instructions to Bidders
* **Two Cover System:** Bidders must submit their Technical Bid and Financial Bid separately on the e-procurement platform.
* **Sample Submission:** Ensure food samples are submitted to the designed authority before the specified deadline (20.06.2026, 4.00 PM). failing which the technical bid may be disqualified.
* All relevant registrations FSSAI licenses, and financial documents must be valid and uploaded electronically Manual submissions will not be considered.
* For more information please visit www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and refer to the tender no: DHFWS/2026-27/SE2224

Sd/- District Surgeon
District Hospital, Vijayapura

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/154/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2026–27

THE COURT OF THE 1 ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & J.M.F.C AT DODDABALLAPUR
CRL.MISC.NO. 92/2026
Petitioner; 1) Smt, Pillamma W/o Srinivas Aged about 42 years, **2) Sri,Srinivas** S/o Venkateshappa Aged about 49 years, **3) Sri,Shashikumar** S/o Srinivas Aged about 23 years, All are R/at Hasan aghatta Village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk Bangalore Rural District
V/s
Respondent; The Thahashildar Doddaballapura Taluk Doddaballapur
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereea the Petitioner has filed the above petition under section 13 (3) and 14 of Registration of Birth and Deaths Act 1969 for seeking the death certificate of her Sister of petitioner 01 & sister in Law of Petitioner No 02 & Aynty of Petitioner No 03 by name SMT, NANJAMMA W/O LATE BASAVRAJU who died 08-05-2001 at Hasannaghatta Village, Kasaba Hobali, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural District.
In this regard it is hereby noticed thet whoever has interested in this said matter may Apper in person or through advocate duly authorized before court 08.07.2026 at 11 AM in default this will be heard and disposed off Ex-parte order.
Given under my hand seal the court on the 16th day Jun 2026
By order of the court
Chief Ministerial Officer Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Court Doddabaallapura
Advocate: **Nagaraju C.**, Doddaballapur -561203

THE COURT OF THE 1 ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & J.M.F.C AT DODDABALLAPUR
CRL.MISC.NO. 93/2026
Petitioner; 1) Smt, Pillamma W/o Srinivas Aged about 42 years, **2) Sri,Srinivas** S/o Venkateshappa Aged about 49 years, **3) Sri,Shashikumar** S/o Srinivas Aged about 23 years, All are R/at Hasan aghatta Village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk Bangalore Rural District
V/s
Respondent; The Thahashildar Doddaballapura Taluk Doddaballapur
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereea the Petitioner has filed the above petition under section 13 (3) and 14 of Registration of Birth and Deaths Act 1969 for seeking the death certificate of her mother of petitioner 01 & Mother in Law of Petitioner No 02 & Grand Mother in Law of Petitioner No 03 by name SMT,MUNITHAYAMMA W/O LATE CHIKKACHANNAPPA who died 15-06-1995 at Hasannaghatta Village, Kasaba Hobali, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural District.
In this regard it is hereby noticed thet whoever has interested in this said matter may Apper in person or through advocate duly authorized before court 08.07.2026 at 11 AM in default this will be heard and disposed off Ex-parte order.
Given under my hand seal the court on the 16th day Jun 2026
By order of the court
Chief Ministerial Officer Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Court Doddabaallapura
Advocate: **Nagaraju C.**, Doddaballapur -561203

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಸಯ್ಯಾಜಿ ರಾವ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ,
ಮೈಸೂರು–570024, E-mail: ee.environmentmcc@gmail.com

ನಂ: ಹೆಚ್1/ಪವಿ/101/2022–23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12.06.2026

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವಿವಿಧ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ

Tender	No. of Work	Amount (InLakhs)	ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ
Service Tender	01 to 04	60.29	12.06.2026	20.06.2026
	05	29.38	15.06.2026	25.06.2026
EOI	01	–	12.06.2026	20.06.2026

ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರವನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಕಾ.ಅ (ಪರಿಸರ) ರವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ: ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ / ಬದಲಾವಣೆ / ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು(ಪರಿಸರ)
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಮೈಸೂರು/343/ಶಿರಡಿ ಸಾಯಿ/2026–27

QUICK READ

SL Bribery Commission arrests ex-president's son

Colombo

Authorities detained a prominent political figure as anti-corruption investigations continue under Sri Lanka's government. Sri Lanka's anti-corruption authorities have arrested Yoshitha Rajapaksa, the son of former President Mahinda Rajapaksa, according to local media reports published on Wednesday.The arrest was carried out by the country's bribery and corruption commission, which is responsible for investigating allegations of corruption, misuse of public resources, and financial misconduct involving public officials and poliically exposed ndividuals.

G7 leaders back truce, energy route diversification

G7 nations endorsed diplomatic efforts, urged regional stability, and sought alternative energy routes amid tensions.

EVIAN-LES-BAINS

Leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) countries on Wednesday called for a ceasefire in Lebanon and pledged to diversify global energy supply routes to reduce dependence on the strategically important Strait of Hormuz.

The announcement came as world powers welcomed an interim agreement between the United States and Iran aimed at ending months of conflict and creating a pathway toward a permanent peace settlement.

The G7 summit was held in the French resort town of Evian-les-Bains, located on the shores of Lake Geneva. Discussions were dominated by the ongoing crisis involving Iran and the wider Middle East. Leaders gathered as details of a ceasefire arrangement between Washington and Tehran gradually emerged ahead of its expected formal unveiling in Switzerland later this week.

According to officials, the interim agreement is intended to launch broader negotiations that could eventually bring a complete end to the war. The conflict has reportedly claimed more than 7,000 lives, with the majority of casualties occurring in Iran and Lebanon. The humanitarian impact of the war has raised growing concerns among the international community and intensified calls for a lasting resolution.

In a joint statement, G7 leaders emphasized the importance of continued negotiations and stressed that any final settlement must address concerns surrounding Iran's regional activities and nuclear ambitions. The statement reiterated the group's position that Iran must never acquire a nuclear weapon and called for diplomatic efforts to ensure long-term stability in the region.

The summit also provided an opportunity for United States President Donald Trump to present the framework of the agreement to fellow leaders from Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, and Japan. While these countries largely share concerns regarding Iran's nuclear program, many had previously expressed reservations about the decision to engage in military conflict.

The leaders signaled their readiness to support implementation of the accord. A coalition led by Britain and France is expected to assist in securing international shipping routes once the Strait of Hormuz reopens, which is anticipated later this week. The waterway remains one of the world's most critical energy transit corridors.

The memorandum of understanding signed by Washington and Tehran reportedly extends an earlier ceasefire by an additional 60 days, allowing negotiators time to pursue a permanent truce.

LEADERS REAFFIRM SUPPORT TO UKRAINE, TIGHTEN RUSSIA PRESSURE

EVIAN-LES-BAINS

Leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) nations on Wednesday presented a united front in support of Ukraine, signaling stronger backing for Kyiv while discussing additional measures to increase pressure on Russia.

The developments came during the G7 summit held in the French resort town of Evian-les-Bains, where global security, economic stability, and ongoing geopolitical conflicts dominated the agenda.

United States President Donald Trump drew attention during the summit when he jokingly remarked, I'm the boss, while joining fellow leaders at a session focused on global economic security.

Although made in a light-hearted manner, the comment reflected the significant influence Washington continues to wield within the alliance as major powers coordinate responses to international crises.

The summit produced a joint statement emphasizing support for Ukraine at a time when the country has reported improved battlefield performance against Russian forces. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy and his allies arrived at the gathering seeking to convince Western partners that Ukraine's military efforts have strengthened its position and that Moscow should not be allowed to dictate the terms of any future peace agreement.

The statement is being viewed as a diplomatic boost for Kyiv and a sign that the United States may be taking a firmer stance toward Russia. For several years, Trump had been perceived as skeptical of some arguments advanced by Ukraine and its supporters.

Netanyahu faces mounting challenges prior to elections

JERUSALEM

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is heading into a crucial election season facing growing political pressure as an interim agreement between the United States and Iran reshapes the regional landscape and raises fresh questions about his leadership. With national elections required to be called by October, the veteran leader must now convince voters that his handling of multiple conflicts and Israel's strategic alliances has strengthened the country despite mounting criticism.

Netanyahu, 76, recently confirmed his intention to seek another term in office. However, opinion polls suggest his right-wing coalition could struggle to retain power. While his long political career and ability to build governing alliances have repeatedly defied expectations, analysts believe this election may be among the most challenging he has faced.The latest complication stems from United States President Donald Trump's decision to pursue an interim peace arrangement with Iran and efforts to end conflicts involving Iran and Lebanon. The development has led critics to argue that Israel's military.

Iran deal includes $300 bn fund, over half of which already committed

DUBAI

A $300 billion private fund designed to trigger investment into Iran is outlined in the U.S.-Iran framework agreement and more than half that sum has already been committed, a source with direct knowledge of the deal told Reuters.

The fund is designed to give both sides an economic incentive to conclude a final deal to end the war, said the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the plan has not yet been announced as Washington and Tehran prepare to sign on Friday.

The fund's existence has been previously reported but Reuters is revealing for the first time that more than half of the amount has already been committed and that it will be comprised entirely of private-sector funds.

U.S. and Iranian officials said on Sunday they had agreed on a framework to end their war, which began when U.S. and Israeli forces attacked Iran on February 28, halt the U.S. blockade of Iran and reopen the Strait of Hormuz, a key supply route for global oil and gas.

The new fund is a private investment vehicle, not a reconstruction or reparations programme and will not include any government money or grants, the source said, adding that companies based in the U.S., the Gulf Arab states, Asia, South America and Africa have agreed to commit financing.

Investments pledged span energy, logistics, manufacturing and transport, the source said.

Immigrant detention deaths rise amid deportation crackdown

WASHINGTON

The number of deaths in United States immigration detention facilities has risen sharply since President Donald Trump launched a large-scale deportation campaign in January 2025, according to official records reviewed by news organizations and researchers.

The increase has sparked renewed concerns about medical care, mental health support, and overall conditions within detention centers housing tens of thousands of migrants.

Recent cases have highlighted the human toll inside the detention system. A Vietnamese detainee with cardiovascular problems reportedly collapsed and died at a repurposed maximum-security prison in Indiana that is now being used to hold immigrants.

In Pennsylvania, a Chinese detainee who had previously attempted suicide was found dead after hanging himself in a detention facility shower. In New York, a Honduran man suffering from alcohol withdrawal symptoms and an elevated heart rate died in his cell without receiving emergency medical intervention.

According to Immigration and Customs Enforcement records, 50 people have died while in immigration detention since the beginning of 2025. Data obtained through public records requests and analyzed by researchers indicate that the rate of deaths in detention has increased significantly compared to previous years.

Between 2009 and 2024, immigration detention facilities recorded approximately one death annually for every 3,848 detainees based on average daily populations. Preliminary figures through early June 2025 suggest the rate has more than doubled, reaching roughly one death for every 1,630 detainees. While experts caution that deaths can occur for a variety of reasons and do not automatically indicate negligence, they say the trend warrants closer examination. The data was obtained by the Deportation Data Project and processed by the Vera Institute of Justice, a nonprofit organization focused on criminal justice reform and incarceration issues.

Immigration detention populations have increased steadily in recent years. During the administration of former U.S. President Joe Biden, enforcement measures expanded amid political pressure over border security.

The detention population rose from a pandemic-era low of approximately 14,000 detainees in early 2021 to around 40,000 by the time Trump returned to office.Following the launch of the current administration's deportation campaign, the detained population surged to nearly 70,000 people before declining to about 57,000 by early June. Experts reviewing detention records have expressed concern that facilities may be struggling to keep pace with the growing number of detainees.

Norway crown princess undergoes lung transplant

OSLO

Norway's Crown Princess Mette-Marit has undergone a successful lung transplant and will remain in hospital for several weeks as she begins her recovery, doctors at Oslo University Hospital said on Wednesday.

The 52-year-old wife of Crown Prince Haakon, heir to the Norwegian throne, was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis in 2018, a chronic disease that causes scarring in the lungs and reduces oxygen uptake.

The hospital said the transplant had so far been successful, in a statement provided by the palace, but without specifying exactly when the procedure took place.

Like all newly transplanted patients, the crown princess will remain at the hospital for several weeks to come, Oslo University Hospital Professor Are Holm said.

The time would be spent adjusting medication, managing potential complications and beginning physical rehabilitation, he said. The surgery comes at a strained time for the royal family: earlier this week, Mette-Marit's 29-year-old son from a previous relationship, Marius Borg Hoiby, was convicted of rape and domestic violence and sentenced to four years in prison. Hoiby plans to appeal, his lawyer has said.

UAE minister visits Thumbay Medicity in Ajman

AJMAN

UAE Minister of Foreign Trade Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi visited Thumbay Medicity in Ajman, marking his first visit to one of the region's largest integrated hubs for medical education, healthcare, and research.

He was received by Dr. Thumbay Moideen, Founder President of Thumbay Group, along with senior academic and healthcare leaders of the institution.

During the visit, he toured key facilities including Gulf Medical University and Thumbay's teaching hospitals, observing how education, patient care, and research function together within the same campus.

He also reviewed the growth of the institution, which began as a single college in 1998 and has now expanded into a global hub attracting students from more than 111 countries.

A meeting was later held between Dr. Moideen and the Minister at Thumbay University Hospital, where discussions focused on the role of private healthcare and education in strengthening the UAE's knowledge economy. They also discussed medical research, life sciences, and the country's ambition to become a global destination for talent, innovation, and investment.

The Minister said Thumbay Group plays an important role in advancing healthcare services and medical education in the UAE and supports national goals under the 'We the UAE 2031' vision.

He added that the institution reflects the country's broader aim of improving healthcare quality and strengthening global partnerships in the sector.

Dr. Moideen expressed gratitude for the visit, saying it reinforces the importance of healthcare education and research in the UAE's long-term economic development.

NAME CHANGE

I, **Mahammed Mustaq** S/o Shake Jahangeer alias Basha, Residing at No. 9/7, Linden Repose, 2nd B Cross, Linden Street, Y.G. Palya, Bengaluru–560047, have changed my name to **Mohammed Mushtaq**, date of birth 12.06.1993, Vide Affidavit Dated: 17-06-2026 Before Notary G.DAYANANDA , Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, **HASEENA**, W/o. Mushtaq Ahmed, Resident of No. 12, 1st Floor, Sarang Nandi Garden Block, S C Avalahalli, J P Nagar 9th Phase, Alahalli PO, Bengaluru -560062, Karnataka, have changed my name to **HASEENA BEGUM**, vide affidavit dated: 17.06.2026 before notary G. DAYANANDA, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SAI PRASAD K HIRAPACHE S/o KRISHNA DHULAPPA HIRAPACHE, R/o Plot No.17, CTS 5768, SY No.162, Maratha Colony, Tilakwadi, Belagavi, Karnataka-590006, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SAIPRASAD HIRAPACHE.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that Mr./Ms. Sri Vivekananda Shikshana Samsthe Represented by sri Prakash. M (hereinafter referred to as the "Intending Purchaser") is intending to purchase the immovable property bearing description as follows:

Property Description:

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Land (Commercial Converted for Educational Purpose) is situated at Ichanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Holenarasipura Taluk, Hassan District, bearing survey No. 14/2 measuring with an extent of 2 Acres 2 Guntas, Property No.364 (as per Grama Panchayath Records) having E-Khata No.: 151600700800820032, assessment no. 364 a total area of 8092 sq mtrs out of which a constructed area of 2899 sq mtrs a odd site consists of which is bounded; East: Holenarasipura-Keralapura Road, West: Property belonging to Sri Siddaiah, North: Property belonging to Sri Ningaiah & Others, South: Property belonging to Sri Ameen Siddaiah

All that piece and parcel of the above property more fully described is being offered for sale by Mr./Ms.Suresh. C. S/o Kumar nair (hereinafter referred to as the "Seller"). It has been represented to the Intending Purchaser that the Seller is presently under substantial financial liabilities and debts. Therefore, this public notice is hereby issued to invite claims, objections, or demands, if any, from any person(s), financial institution(s), or entity(ies) having any right, title, interest, claim, lien, charge, mortgage, encumbrance, or any form of transaction whatsoever in respect of the said property. All such persons are hereby required to submit their claims or objections, along with supporting documentary evidence, to the undersigned within one week [7 days] from the date of publication of this notice, failing which it shall be presumed that there are no such claims or objections, and the Intending Purchaser shall proceed with the transaction. Further, if any person(s) fails to notify their claim within the stipulated period, and any liability, debt, or encumbrance arises subsequently, the same shall be deemed to have been suppressed, and the Seller shall be solely liable for the same. The Seller hereby agrees to indemnify and keep indemnified the Intending Purchaser against all such claims, losses, damages, or liabilities arising in future.

Advocate: Sri. Rajashekara.H.T, Advocate, Holenarasipura, Roll No:KAR:3181/2010 Mobile No. 9141140525

Place: Holenarasipura

Date: 18-06-2026

CHANGE OF NAME

I,Ishaan Chandrasekharan S/o Sinoj Chandrasekharan R/o # Villa No-267 Heritage County, Thindlu Main Road, Sarjapura, Bengaluru, Karnataka-562125, have changed my name to Ishaan Nair.

NAME CHANGE

I, **NAZEER NISAR AHMED**, S/o. Nisar Ahmed, Resident of No. 953, Avalahalli Quarters, 7th Cross to 12th Cross, Near Aqsa Masjid, BDA Layout, Anjanapura PO, Bengaluru -560062, have changed my name to **NAZEER AHMED**, vide affidavit dated: 17.06.2026 before notary G. DAYANANDA, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I,DIPANWITA DAS W/o RAGHUNANDAN K ACHAR, R/o 9, 4th Cross, A Block, Dinnur Main Road, Bangalore North, R T Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560032, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as DIPANWITA RAGHUNANDAN ACHAR.

NAME CHANGE

I **Rani Samson** (old name) w/o V. Samson Residing at No.665, 10th main, 9th Cross, Kalyan nagar post, Hennur Cross Bangalore -560043. have changed my name to **RANI HEMAVATHI** (New name) vide affidavit dated 15/06/2026 before Notary C. Sharada Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, LAKSHMI N G W/o T G LALITH, R/o 2159/3, 18th Division, Thyagarajanagar, Dod Ballapur, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka-561203, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as LAKSHMI T L.

ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಕನಕಪುರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಕಸಬಾ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಟಿ ಬೇಕುಪ್ಪೆ ಅಂಚೆ, ಅರಳಾಳು ವಾಸವಾಗಿರುವ ಶ್ರೀ ಬಸವರಾಜು.ಕೆ.ಹೆಚ್ ರವರ ಮಗನಾದ ಸುಮಾರು 29 ವರ್ಷ ವಯಸ್ಸುಳ್ಳ ಶ್ರೀ ಆನಂದ ಬಸವರಾಜ ಆದ ನಾನು ಸತ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ. ಆಧಾರ್ ನಂ: (8649 7211 7925) ನಾನು ಈ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ವಿಳಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾಯಂ ನಿವಾಸಿಯಾ ಗಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ಇದೇ ಕನಕಪುರ ಉಪ ನೊಂದಣಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 1ನೇ ಪುಸ್ತಕದ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕೆಎನ್‌ಕೆ 1–04847)2011–12 ಆಗಿ, ಸಿ ಡಿ ನಂ: ಕೆಎನ್‌ಕೆಡಿ223 ನೇದ್ದರಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.10.2011 ರಂದು ಇದೇ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಕನಕಪುರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಕನಕಪುರ ಟೌನ್, ಜೆ ಸಿ ಬಡಾವಣೆ, ಲಿಂಗಣ್ಣ ರಸ್ತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಇಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಸವಾಗಿರುವ ಪಿ.ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್ ಮತ್ತು ಕೆ ಎಸ್ ನಂದಿನಿ ರವರಿಂದ ಸರೋಜಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಬಸವೇಗೌಡ ರವರ ಹೆಸರಿಗೆ ಶುದ್ಧ ಕ್ರಯ ಪತ್ರ ನೊಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಈ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01.06.2026 ರಂದು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಿಂದ ಕನಕಪುರಕ್ಕೆ ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಆರ್‌ಟಿಸಿ ಬಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಯಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಣಿಯಾಗಿರುವ ಕ್ರಯ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಕ್ರಯಪತ್ರ ಕಳೆದುಹೋಗಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸದರಿ ವಿಚಾರವಾಗಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16–06–2026 ರಂದು ಇದೇ ಕನಕಪುರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಕನಕಪುರ ರೂರಲ್ ಆರಕ್ಷಕ ಠಾಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರು ದಾಖಲೆ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದು, ದೂರಿನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 2258117/2026 ರಂತೆ ದೂರು ದಾಖಲೆ ಮಾಡಿರುತ್ತೇವೆ. ನೊಂದಣಿ ಯಾಗಿರುವ ಕ್ರಯ ಪತ್ರ ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಪಟ್ಟ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೋರಲಾಗಿ ಅಲ್ಲಿನ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ನನ್ನಿಂದ ಒಂದು ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ ಕೇಳಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಈ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ

ಈ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರದ ಮೂಲಕ ಸತ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01–06–2026 ರಂದು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಿಂದ ಕನಕಪುರಕ್ಕೆ ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಆರ್.ಟಿ.ಸಿ ಬಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಯಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಣಿಯಾಗಿರುವ ಕ್ರಯ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡಿರುವುದು ಸತ್ಯ ಸಂಗತಿಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂಬುದು ಸತ್ಯ ಸಂಗತಿಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ಈ ಪತ್ರದ ಮೂಲಕ ಸತ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸುತ್ತ ನನ್ನ ಸಹಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿರುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡಂತೆ ಹೇಳಿರುವುದು ನಿಜವಾದದು ಮತ್ತು ಸತ್ಯವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಅಸತ್ಯವೆಂದು ಕಂಡು ಬಂದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾನೂನು ರೀತಿಯ ಕ್ರಮ ಜರುಗಿಸಬಹುದೆಂದು ಈ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರದ ಮೂಲಕ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸಿ ನನ್ನ ಸಹಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿ ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ದೃಢೀಕರಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ನನ್ನಿಂದ ಗುರುತಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿದೆ. ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸಿದವರು

ವಕೀಲರು,

ಸ್ಥಳ:– ಕನಕಪುರ, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16–06–2026

NAME CHANGE

I, **SHABANA PARVEEN**, residing at Ward No. 13, Opposite Poly Clinic, Topa Khana Mohalla, Ramanagara–562159, do hereby declare that my name has been incorrectly mentioned as **SHABANA PARVEEN HIDAYATHULLA** in certain records and documents. My correct and actual name is **SHABANA PARVEEN** only. Henceforth, I shall be known and recognized by the name SHABANA PARVEEN for all legal, official, personal and all other purposes. Sworn before Ramanagara Notary Puttaraju P., Dated: 17-06-2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public is hereby informed that my client, intends to enter into certain transaction in respect of immovable property situated at Nagamanagala Village, Madabal Hobli, Magadi Taluk and Bengaluru South District, which is more particularly described in the SCHEDULE hereunder and herein after referred to as the Schedule Property, with its present owner, who has represented to my client that he is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property having unrestricted right of alienation over the same.

The owner has further represented to my client that Schedule Property is free from all kinds of encumbrances, charges, liens, litigations and/or any third-party rights/claims of any nature whatsoever.

Any person or persons, having any claim, interest or right on the property described in the Schedule written hereunder or any part thereof by way of any litigation(s) pending before any court or tribunal or governmental or statutory authority or by way of inheritance, sale, exchange, mortgage, lien, pledge, gift, trust, bequest, possession, lease, charge, easement, grant, tenancy or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate the same to the undersigned in writing within seven (15) days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/its claim, if any, with all supporting documents, failing which the transaction shall be completed without reference to such claim, and the claims, if any, of such person (s) shall be treated as waived and not binding on my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Sy. No. 44/1, measuring 03 Acres 10 Guntas, situated at Nagamanagala Village, Madabal Hobli, Magadi Taluk and Bengaluru South District and bounded on:

East By: Land belonging to N. R. Narendra and Government Road;
West By: Government Oni,
North By: Land bearing Sy. No. 45,
South By: Land belonging to Gowramma, Mohan Kuamr G.Y. and Ramesh G.Y.

Contact Address:

Sd/-Akhilesh S., Advocate,
No. 79, Sathyanarayana, H. B. C. S. 2nd Stage, 3rd Cross,
Mahalakshmipuram Post, Bangalore-560 086.
Email: akhileshsridhar1994@gmail.com

Place: Bangalore. Date: 16-06-2026

Real Madrid sign Bernardo Silva on free transfer

Real Madrid have signed Portuguese midfielder Bernardo Silva on a free transfer from Manchester City on a two-year deal

MADRID

Real Madrid have signed Portuguese star Bernardo Silva on a free transfer after his contract with Manchester City ended. The 31-year-old midfielder has agreed to a two-year deal with the Spanish club. This move marks the latest addition to manager Jose Mourinho's rebuilding plan. Silva joins fellow new signing Marc Cucurella from Chelsea, while defender Antonio Rudiger has also signed a contract extension.

Silva spent nine successful years at Manchester City, where he became one of the club's greatest players. He played 460 matches and scored 76 goals, helping City win 20 major trophies. His collection includes six Premier League titles, one Champions League, three FA Cups, and many more honors. Known for his creativity and hard work, Silva was a favorite of manager Pep Guardiola. He played a big part in City's historic Treble-winning season in 2022-23. In his final year, he even captained the team to more cup successes.

The Portuguese international knows Real Madrid well, having faced them 13 times and scored four goals against them in the Champions League, including a memorable brace in a 4-0 win. Now, Silva brings his experience and winning spirit to the Santiago Bernabeu. Mourinho hopes the midfielder's skills will help Real bounce back after a tough 2025-26 season where they missed the LaLiga title and exited the Champions League early.

Fans are excited about this smart signing, which adds quality and leadership to the squad without costing a transfer fee. Silva's journey from City to Madrid promises fresh excitement in Spanish football.

Tim White leads Indian junior hockey UK tour

NEW DELHI

The Indian junior women's hockey team will play seven matches during their United Kingdom tour from July 5 to 14

The Indian junior women's hockey team will tour the United Kingdom from July 5 to July 14, 2026, playing seven matches as part of their preparation under new coach Tim White. They will face Scotland Senior Women, England U-21, United States U-21 and Belgium U-21 across Scotland and England in a series of practice games.

The tour begins in Edinburgh with two matches against Scotland on July 5 and 6 at Peffermill Playing Fields. After that, the squad moves to Lilleshall in England to play five more matches against United States, England, and Belgium U-21 teams. Coach Tim White said the tour will help players gain valuable international experience and learn different styles of hockey at a higher level. He added that the matches will improve confidence, expose weaknesses, and prepare players for future senior national team opportunities.

Hockey India said the tour is part of its efforts to give young players strong international exposure and development opportunities. The tour schedule includes matches on July 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, and 14 across Edinburgh and Lilleshall venues. Officials believe the exposure tour will help bridge the gap between junior and senior international hockey.

Players will also get experience of different playing conditions, coaching systems, and tactical approaches used by top international sides. The team is expected to return with improved skills, stronger teamwork, and better readiness for future global tournaments. This tour reflects India's long-term plan to develop world-class women hockey talent system strengthening effort.

Australia's disciplined bowling attack restricted Bangladesh to 77/8, securing a dominant victory at Headingley in Match 9 of the Women's T20 World Cup

GARTH, MOLINEUX LEAD AUSTRALIA'S BOWLING ATTACK

LEEDS

Australia produced a dominant bowling display as Bangladesh were restricted to 77/8 in 20 overs in Match 9 of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 at Headingley. Captain Nigar Sultana played a lone hand with 27 runs, but struggled to build support as wickets kept falling around her. Australia's bowlers Kim Garth, Sophie Molineux, Ellyse Perry, Georgia Wareham, and Annabel Sutherland shared wickets with tight lines and discipline.

Garth struck early, removing Dilara Akhtar for a duck, while Molineux and Perry added key breakthroughs in the middle overs. Bangladesh never recovered, reaching only 22/3 in the powerplay as pressure mounted on their batting lineup. Nigar Sultana and Ritu Moni attempted a rebuild, but Australia continued to tighten control through accurate seam bowling.

Ritu Moni scored 16 before being dismissed by Georgia Wareham, while Sultana fell for 27 trying to attack Sophie Molineux. Bangladesh were bowled out for a modest total as Australia sealed a convincing victory with disciplined finishing in final overs. Ellyse Perry finished with two wickets, while Molineux and Garth also claimed two each, underlining Australia's strong depth in bowling attack.

Australia's win strengthens their position in the tournament and sends a strong message to other teams competing for the title. Bangladesh will look to regroup quickly, as they search for consistency in their remaining group matches after a tough outing against the defending champions. Headingley offered helpful seam conditions throughout, making batting difficult and rewarding disciplined bowling efforts from Australia's attack on the day.

Sunit Chowrasia co-leads NexGen Opener

VARANASI

Thirty-one-year-old Sunit Chowrasia of Kolkata, twenty-seven-year-old Mukeem Ali of Mathura and thirty-nine-year-old Dipankar Kaushal of Noida shared the opening round lead at the inaugural PGTI NexGen event in Varanasi. All three players carded three-under 67 to stay tied after the first round at BLW Greens Golf Course.

Sunit, who leads the NexGen Order of Merit, arrived after winning two recent tournaments and showed strong form again. He mixed birdies and bogeys but recovered well after a double bogey on the tenth hole. Mukeem Ali impressed with excellent putting and finished strong with three consecutive birdies at the end of his round. He said his putting made the difference and helped him stay confident throughout the hot conditions.

Dipankar Kaushal delivered a steady round with an eagle on the eighteenth hole and strong ball striking. He hit seventeen greens in regulation and said he was pleased despite a double bogey earlier. Other golfers also stayed close behind with several players under par in tough conditions. Only a small number of competitors managed even par or better on opening day. The tournament winner will earn a place on the main tour next season through ranking points.

Organisers praised the competitive start and said the event is expected to grow in popularity across India. Players will continue competing over the coming rounds with hopes of securing valuable ranking points and improving their standings in the NexGen Order of Merit race through consistent performance this week at Varanasi golf course event today final round.

Messi delivers historic hat trick in Kansas

NEW DELHI

FIFA President Gianni Infantino has praised Lionel Messi for equalling the all-time World Cup goal scoring record with a brilliant hat-trick. The Argentine superstar matched Germany's Miroslav Klose on 16 goals as defending champions Argentina beat Algeria in their Group J opener at the 2026 FIFA World Cup. Messi, playing in a record sixth World Cup finals, lit up the stadium in Kansas City with an exquisite display of finishing. He reached the milestone in just 76 minutes, delighting a packed crowd that witnessed pure greatness.

Infantino, who was present in the stands and cheering every goal, took to social media to celebrate. "@leomessi has arrived in style, scoring his first FIFA World Cup hat-trick! An amazing crowd witnessed greatness," he wrote. In another post, he added, "Congratulations to world champion @leomessi on scoring your 16th FIFA World Cup goal. This record speaks of your timeless brilliance as you continue to spread happiness to millions." The 39-year-old Messi started the match three goals behind Klose but quickly closed the gap with clinical finishing.

It was a memorable day across the tournament. France's Kylian Mbappe scored twice to become his country's all-time top scorer, while Erling Haaland netted a brace on his World Cup debut as Norway won 4-1 against Iraq.

"What a fantastic day of football at the FIFA World Cup! A hat-trick from Messi following braces from Mbappe and Haaland. This tournament is setting new records and bringing joy to fans worldwide," Infantino said. Messi's magic once again proved why he remains one of the greatest players ever.

ROHIT SHARMA crosses 14,000 runs mark

LUCKNOW

Rohit Sharma has become only the fifth Indian batter to reach 14,000 runs in List A cricket, achieving the milestone during the second ODI against Afghanistan. He looked in fine touch and scored 48 runs off 39 balls, hitting six fours and two sixes at a strike rate above 120. With this achievement, Rohit now has 14,038 runs in 356 List A matches, including 37 centuries across international and domestic cricket.

The overall List A record in India is still held by Sachin Tendulkar with 21,999 runs in 551 matches and 60 centuries. He is followed by Virat Kohli, Sourav Ganguly and Rahul Dravid in the all-time Indian List A run charts. In the match, Afghanistan won the toss and chose to field first in Lucknow. India posted a massive total of 402 all out in 49.5 overs, driven by centuries from Shubman Gill and Ishan Kishan.

Gill scored 154 and Kishan made 125, helping India dominate the Afghan bowling attack throughout the innings. Nangeyalia Kharoti and Rashid Khan picked wickets for Afghanistan but could not stop India's big total. Afghanistan now need 403 runs to level the ODI series after a tough bowling effort.

Rohit's achievement adds another milestone to his long List A career and strengthens his legacy as one of India's most consistent batters across formats while the team continues to dominate the series with strong batting performances and confident bowling support in the ongoing tour against Afghanistan in Lucknow cricket series today match

Austria ends 28 year wait with 3-1 WC Win

SANTA CLARA

Austria marked their return to the FIFA World Cup after 28 years with a hard-fought 3-1 win over debutants Jordan at the San Francisco Bay Area Stadium. The Europeans took the lead in the 20th minute when Romano Schmid smashed a powerful shot from the edge of the box. Jordan fought back bravely after the break as Ali Olwan scored a brilliant solo goal, becoming the first Jordanian to net at a World Cup. Austria regained the lead when Jordan defender Yazan Al Arab unfortunately headed the ball into his own net. Veteran striker Marko Arnautovic sealed the victory with a cool penalty in the 12th minute of added time. Interestingly, this result continued an unusual record for Austria, they have now played 30 World Cup matches without a single goalless draw.

Jordan started the game with plenty of energy and created early chances, but Austria's experience and finishing proved decisive. The match was full of drama, including a VAR review that disallowed an earlier Arnautovic goal for handball in the build-up. The win gives Austria a strong start in their group while Jordan, despite the defeat, earned respect for their spirited debut on the big stage.

Norway mirror 1994 World Cup line-up

MASSACHUSETTS

Norway created a rare moment in football history after becoming the first team in FIFA World Cup history to field three players whose fathers also played in the tournament, during their match against Iraq in the ongoing 2026 edition. Stars Erling Haaland, Alexander Sørloth, and Kristian Thorstvedt all featured together for Norway, continuing a unique family legacy that links back 32 years.

In the 1994 FIFA World Cup held in the United States, Norway had also fielded their fathers - Alf-Inge Haaland, Gøran Sørloth, and Erik Thorstvedt, in the same tournament match against Italy, making this modern moment even more symbolic. On the field, Norway delivered a strong performance, defeating Iraq 4-1. Haaland marked his World Cup debut with two goals and played a key role in several attacking moves.

Norway took the lead in the 29th minute when Haaland finished a low cross, but Iraq briefly equalised through Aymen Hussein's header. Before half-time, Haaland restored Norway's advantage after pressuring the Iraqi goalkeeper into an error.

In the second half, Leo Østigård added a third goal from a corner, before an own goal by Iraq sealed the result in stoppage time. Despite some early pressure from Iraq, Norway stayed in control for most of the match and showed strong finishing quality.

QUICK READ

Insurance demand stays strong despite regulatory uncertainty

New Delhi

India's insurance sector is navigating regulatory uncertainty, but its long-term growth prospects remain robust, according to a report by Kotak Institutional Equities. The brokerage noted that evolving regulations may create short-term challenges for insurers, affecting product structures, distribution models, and profitability. However, fundamental demand drivers continue to support the sector's expansion. Rising income levels, increasing financial awareness, growing protection needs, and low insurance penetration are expected to sustain demand over the coming years. The report highlighted that demographic trends and expanding access to insurance products will further strengthen industry growth. Despite near-term policy-related concerns, the sector remains well-positioned to benefit from India's long-term economic and financial development.

K'taka plans biotech finance framework for AI growth

Bengaluru

Karnataka is exploring a new biotech finance framework aimed at strengthening innovation and investment in life sciences, while accelerating AI-led growth across key sectors. According to discussions involving policymakers and industry members, the state is focusing on the convergence of artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, and biotechnology. Stakeholders highlighted opportunities in research, diagnostics, drug discovery, genomics, and precision medicine. The initiative seeks to expand AI adoption in scientific research and healthcare innovation, while improving funding mechanisms for startups and research institutions. Officials said the framework could position Karnataka as a leading hub for deep-tech innovation and advanced healthcare solutions in India.

South Korea joins OpenAI AI security alliance deal

Soule

South Korea has become fourth country to sign AI security partnership with OpenAI, according to science ministry. Under MoU, South Korea's AI Safety Institute and OpenAI will collaborate on global AI safety evaluation frameworks, exchange technical information, and build assessment standards reflecting Korean language and societal context. The partnership aims to strengthen international coordination on identifying and mitigating risks from advanced AI systems.

India defence production hits record ₹1.78L cr, up 15.6%

Rajnath Singh says the latest achievement highlights the rapid expansion of India's indigenous manufacturing capabilities.

NEW DELHI

India's annual defence production has surged to ₹1.78 lakh crore in 2025–26, marking a significant milestone in the country's push toward self-reliance in the defence sector.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the "remarkable rise" in domestic defence manufacturing reflects the combined efforts of the Ministry of Defence, public sector undertakings, private industry, and startups contributing to the broader ecosystem.

As per official estimates, the sharp rise in output highlights India's accelerating progress under the "Aatmanirbhar Bharat", which aims to reduce dependency on imports and strengthen indigenous capabilities across land, air, and naval systems.

Over the past several years, defence production has expanded steadily due to policy reforms, increased private sector participation, and greater emphasis on indigenisation. The sector has also benefited from simplified procurement procedures and incentives for

local manufacturing.

Officials noted that a growing share of defence equipment is now being produced domestically, ranging from artillery systems and combat vehicles to advanced electronics and aerospace components. This shift has also supported the development of a wider supply chain ecosystem involving micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

The government has also focused on boosting defence exports, which have grown alongside domestic production. India is increasingly supplying equipment to friendly foreign nations, reflecting improved competitiveness of its defence industry.

Experts say the rise in production not only strengthens national security but also contributes to economic growth by generating employment, encouraging technological innovation, and attracting investment into high-tech manufacturing.

The defence sector is expected to remain a key pillar of India's industrial strategy, with continued emphasis on modernization, research and development, and public-private collaboration.

Officials believe that sustaining this momentum will be crucial for meeting future security challenges while positioning India as a major global defence manufacturing hub in the coming years.

SUMMARY

- The growth is driven by Aatmanirbhar Bharat manufacturing push.
- Registers strong growth in domestic defence ecosystem.
- Rising exports boost India's global defence role.
- MSMEs and private sector key contributors.

Policy stability boosts India's appeal for global investors

NEW DELHI

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has urged global investors, corporates, and venture capital funds to actively invest in India, stating that they should "get into action" before missing emerging opportunities in the country's fast-growing economy.

Speaking at a business engagement event, Goyal emphasized that India's investment ecosystem is now well-developed, supported by strong policy frameworks, a large domestic consumer base, and a rapidly expanding startup landscape. He added that the government is committed to facilitating investor access to markets and enabling smoother business operations.

He highlighted that Indian startups are delivering strong performance across multiple sectors, including technology, manufacturing, fintech, and digital services. According to him, the country already has several "tried and tested" business models that demonstrate scalability and global competitiveness.

Goyal noted that India's large and young population offers a significant consumption base, making it one of the most attractive markets for long-term investment. He also pointed to ongoing reforms aimed at improving ease of doing business, attracting foreign capital, and strengthening infrastructure.

Rupee rises 31 paise on improved global risk outlook

MUMBAI

Rupee strengthens to 94.29 against US dollar as falling crude oil prices and improved global sentiment boost forex market confidence and inflows.

The Indian rupee strengthened in early trade on Wednesday, rising 31 paise to 94.29 against the US dollar, supported by easing crude oil prices and improved global risk sentiment.

Forex traders said the domestic currency opened on a firm note as Brent crude slipped to near $79 per barrel, a three-month low.

The decline in oil prices has been driven by expectations of improved supply conditions, including potential geopolitical developments that could ease tensions in key energy routes such as the Strait of Hormuz.

Lower crude oil prices typically support the rupee by reducing India's import bill, as the country remains one of the world's largest oil importers.

The recent slide in global oil benchmarks has also eased concerns over inflationary pressures and external account stability.

In addition, a softer US dollar in global markets has provided further support to emerging market currencies, including the rupee.

Improved investor sentiment and reduced volatility have contributed to increased inflows into domestic equity markets, adding strength to the currency.

Market participants also noted that expectations of steady foreign investment inflows and a narrowing trade deficit have helped reinforce positive momentum for the rupee.

Domestic economic fundamentals, including strong growth projections and resilient capital markets, continue to support currency stability.

Analysts said that while short-term volatility cannot be ruled out, the rupee is likely to remain sensitive to global crude oil movements, US Federal Reserve policy signals, and geopolitical developments. On the domestic front, equity markets traded higher in early sessions, reflecting broader optimism across asset classes.

The currency's gains align with improved sentiment in both equity and commodity markets as investors respond to easing global risks.

SpaceX IPO Success Highlights Growing Convergence of Satellites, Connectivity and Artificial Intelligence, Driving Investor Interest in Future Technologies

SPACEX IPO SHATTERS RECORDS AT $1.7 TRILLION VALUATION

NEW DELHI

The blockbuster initial public offering (IPO) of SpaceX has drawn global attention not only for its record-breaking valuation but also for what it represents: the growing convergence of satellite technology, connectivity infrastructure, and artificial intelligence (AI). According to analysts at Nomura, the successful listing underscores how these three sectors are increasingly becoming interconnected and are expected to shape the future digital economy.

SpaceX's historic IPO raised approximately USD 75 billion and pushed the company's valuation beyond USD 1.7 trillion, making it the largest public offering in history. Investor enthusiasm reflects confidence in the company's ability to combine space-based communications through its satellite network, advanced AI capabilities, and next-generation computing infrastructure.

A major driver of this optimism is Starlink, which has become one of the world's largest satellite broadband networks. Starlink's expanding global coverage demonstrates how satellite systems can bridge connectivity gaps while supporting data-intensive AI applications.

Nomura highlighted that future growth opportunities lie in integrating AI with satellite networks. SpaceX has outlined plans for orbital AI computing infrastructure, including data centers in space powered by solar energy and supported by satellite constellations. Such projects aim to address growing demand for computing power while overcoming some limitations of terrestrial data centers.

The IPO also signals broader investor interest in companies operating at the intersection of space technology, digital connectivity, and AI. Analysts believe the success of SpaceX could encourage similar public offerings from leading AI firms and accelerate investment in next-generation communications infrastructure.

As AI adoption expands worldwide, the combination of satellites, connectivity networks, and advanced computing is expected to become a defining theme of the technology sector, with SpaceX positioned at the center of this transformation.

Indian-origin cursor cofounder joins billionaire elite club

New Delhi

Indian-origin entrepreneur Aman Sanger has emerged as one of the youngest technology billionaires after a landmark acquisition deal in the artificial intelligence sector significantly boosted his wealth.

Sanger, 25, the cofounder and chief operating officer of Anysphere, has seen his estimated net worth rise to $5.5 billion following a $60 billion all-stock merger agreement under which SpaceX will acquire the company behind the popular AI coding platform Cursor.

The deal marks a major milestone for Anysphere, a startup founded in 2022 by Sanger and his former classmates from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The founders left the prestigious institution to pursue their vision of transforming software development through artificial intelligence.Initially focused on building an AI copilot for the mechanical engineering sector, the company later pivoted to software development tools. The shift proved highly successful, with Cursor becoming one of the fastest-growing AI coding platforms globally. The platform enables developers to analyze entire codebases, generate complex code solutions, and automate software engineering tasks.

Born in New York, Sanger began programming at the age of 14 and later studied computer science at MIT. Alongside cofounders Michael Truell, Sualeh Asif and Arvid Lunnemark, he helped build Cursor into a major enterprise software platform.

The company's growth has been remarkable. Cursor surpassed $1 billion in annualised revenue in late 2025 and reportedly reached approximately $4 billion in annualised revenue by early June 2026. The platform is now used by millions of developers across nearly 50,000 enterprises, including major technology firms such as NVIDIA, Adobe, Uber, Shopify and PayPal.

Reacting to the acquisition announcement, Sanger expressed excitement about advancing AI development, while SpaceX expects the transaction to be completed by the third quarter of 2026. The deal further highlights the growing convergence of artificial intelligence, software development, and advanced technology infrastructure.

Market cap of BSE-listed firms reclaim USD 5-tn mark

MUMBAI

The combined market capitalisation of all companies listed on the BSE Sensex crossed the $5 trillion mark on Wednesday, hitting its highest level in nearly six weeks as domestic equities extended their rally amid easing geopolitical tensions and falling crude oil prices.

The surge in market value reflects a broad-based recovery in Indian equities over recent trading sessions, supported by improving investor sentiment following progress in global diplomatic efforts, including a proposed US-Iran peace agreement. The decline in global oil prices has further strengthened confidence by easing concerns over inflation and import costs.

Analysts noted that lower crude prices and reduced volatility have improved overall risk appetite, leading to sustained buying across equity segments. In the past four trading sessions alone, BSE-listed firms have added more than 6% in market capitalisation, signalling strong momentum in the broader market.

While benchmark indices such as the Sensex have posted steady gains since April, midcap, smallcap, and microcap stocks have outperformed, indicating wider participation from retail and institutional investors in the ongoing rally.

Experts believe that easing geopolitical tensions in West Asia could provide significant macroeconomic relief for India by reducing pressure on inflation, stabilising the current account balance, and supporting corporate earnings growth.

Despite continued selling by foreign institutional investors, domestic inflows have remained strong, helping sustain market resilience. Analysts suggest that any reversal in foreign outflows could further accelerate gains in the coming months.

Structural factors also continue to support long-term optimism, including ongoing economic reforms, improving corporate balance sheets, and rising capital expenditure across key sectors. Companies are increasingly demonstrating stronger cash flows and lower leverage, which is reinforcing investor confidence.

On the trading front, the Sensex rose by over 400 points during the session, while the Nifty also gained more than 100 points, reflecting positive sentiment across sectors.

India credit expansion drives positive banking outlook

NEW DELHI

The banking, financial services, and insurance (BFSI) sector is expected to outperform in the coming quarters, supported by robust credit growth, improving macroeconomic conditions, and a gradual recovery in earnings, according to a new report.

A study by Motilal Oswal Financial Services highlighted that banking system credit growth remains strong at 17.6%, driven by broad-based lending across corporate, retail, and MSME segments.

The report expects credit growth to maintain a healthy trajectory, projecting a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of around 14% during FY26–FY28.

The brokerage noted that earnings momentum is likely to strengthen across the sector, with private banks expected to deliver significantly higher growth compared to public sector banks. Private lenders are projected to post an earnings CAGR of around 21% over FY26–FY28, while PSU banks may see growth closer to 8%.

Large private sector banks are expected to benefit from stronger balance sheets, stable asset quality, and improving business visibility. However, mid-sized private banks have already outperformed over the past year due to stronger operational momentum.

BULLION SLIDES GLOBALLY

MCX gold drops amid improving global risk

NEW DELHI

Gold futures declined in domestic and international markets on Wednesday as easing geopolitical tensions and improving risk appetite reduced demand for safe-haven assets.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold futures fell to ₹1,52,530 per 10 grams, reflecting subdued buying interest amid a broader shift toward riskier assets such as equities. The decline comes after several sessions of volatility driven by global economic uncertainty and fluctuating currency movements.

In international markets, gold futures slipped 0.14% to $4,325.04 per ounce in New York, as investors reassessed demand for safe-haven instruments. Analysts said improved sentiment across global financial markets, supported by falling crude oil prices and easing geopolitical concerns, has reduced immediate pressure on gold prices.

Market participants noted that recent developments in global diplomacy and a decline in energy prices have strengthened risk appetite, prompting investors to move funds into equities and other growth-linked assets. This shift typically weighs on gold, which tends to perform better during periods of uncertainty.

Additionally, expectations around interest rate policies from major central banks, particularly the US Federal Reserve, continue to influence bullion prices. Higher interest rate expectations generally reduce the attractiveness of non-yielding assets like gold.

Despite the current dip, analysts believe gold may remain supported in the medium term due to ongoing global uncertainties, inflation concerns, and central bank demand. However, short-term movements are expected to remain volatile depending on macroeconomic data and geopolitical developments.Overall, the decline in gold futures reflects a temporary easing in global risk aversion, with markets currently favoring equities and other higher-yielding assets over traditional safe-haven investments.

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Bangladesh bowlers rocket up ODI ranking's ladder

DUBAI

Bangladesh's strong ODI series win over Australia has caused a big shake-up in the latest ICC men's ODI rankings. Their bowlers stole the show with impressive performances that pushed them up the list. Left-arm pacer Shoriful Islam was the biggest gainer from the series. His stunning six-wicket haul in the final match helped him climb 10 places to reach 18th position. Fellow pacers Mustafizur Rahman jumped 12 spots to share 25th, while Taskin Ahmed moved up five places to 27th.

Batter Towhid Hridoy also shone brightly, scoring 154 runs in the three matches, including a highest of 83. He gained seven places to settle at 20th in the batting rankings. Afghanistan's Rahmanullah Gurbaz rose six spots to 13th among batters after smashing a brilliant century against India.

The West Indies-Sri Lanka ODI series also brought major changes. West Indies fast bowler Shamar Joseph had a dream run, taking 11 wickets and winning Player of the Series as his

team won 2-1. He shot up a massive 42 places to 27th. Jason Holder gained 11 places to reach 28th.

For Sri Lanka, despite the series loss, Kamil Mishara climbed 24 places to 18th in batting. Spin stars Wanindu Hasaranga moved to eighth, Dunith Wellalage rose to in the bowling charts. ranking shifts highlight the ing depth in world cricket right now.

F1 speeds ahead with greener future

LONDON

Formula One has reported a major reduction in its carbon emissions, moving closer to its goal of becoming a net-zero carbon sport by 2030. According to reports, the championship has cut its overall carbon footprint by 35 percent since 2018.

The report showed that Formula One achieved a further 12 percent reduction in emissions during 2025 compared to the previous year. Travel-related emissions, one of the sport's biggest environmental challenges, have also fallen by 27 percent since the 2018 benchmark.

Officials credited the progress to several sustainability measures adopted across the sport. Teams have increased their use of sustainable aviation fuel, while Formula One has expanded remote broadcasting operations, reducing the need to transport equipment and personnel across the world.

The organisation said nearly 80,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide have been eliminated from its operations since 2018.

This reduction is equal to hundreds of millions of kilometres of air travel and highlights the scale of the environmental effort being made.

With 22 Grands Prix scheduled this season, Formula One continues to focus on lowering emissions linked to staff, teams and freight transportation. The sport plans to remove more than half of its current broadcast and related freight operations from air transport by 2030, a move expected to significantly reduce emissions further.

Formula One President and Chief Executive Officer Stefano Domenicali praised the collective commitment of teams and stakeholders. He said initiatives such as a more efficient race calendar, investment in sustainable fuels and alternative energy solutions have helped reduce the sport's environmental impact while allowing it to continue growing worldwide successfully.

Minister Mandaviya leads seafront fitness cyclothon in Mumbai

MUMBAI

Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya led a lively Fit India Cyclothon titled "Cycling by the Sea" at the scenic Worli Coastal Cycle Track, giving a big push to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a healthier and fitter India. The event drew crowds of fitness lovers, young riders, families and common citizens who came together to celebrate active living. Mandaviya flagged off the cyclothon and happily joined the participants for the ride along the sea.

Speaking to the gathering, the minister said Prime Minister Modi has always pushed fitness as a key part of building a developed India, or Viksit Bharat. "The Fit India Movement is inspiring people across the country to make healthy habits a daily routine," he noted. Mandaviya also highlighted cycling's extra benefits in these times. With fuel supply worries from the West Asia situation, he urged people to choose bicycles more often. "Cycling is good for personal health, saves energy and helps protect the environment," he added with enthusiasm.

Several well-known faces joined the ride, including actors Jackie Shroff, Taha Shah Badussha and Aishwarya Raj Bhakuni, plus Olympic wrestler and DCP Narsing Yadav. The minister praised the growing response to the Fit India Movement, which has seen lakhs of citizens taking part over the past two years. He described cycling as a simple yet powerful way to improve body strength, mental peace and overall happiness. Such events show the government's serious effort to make fitness a people's movement and support India's journey towards becoming a developed nation by 2047.

Prince Yadav earns debut as India faces Afghanistan

LUCKNOW

Afghanistan won the toss and asked India to bat first in the second ODI of the three-match series at the Ekana Cricket Stadium. The visitors will hope to level the series after losing the rain-shortened opening game. India handed a debut to young Prince Yadav, making him the third new player in the series. Harsh Dubey and Gurnoor Brar had earned their caps in the first match. All-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy missed out due to a sore left thigh.

India started the series strongly with a seven-wicket win in Dharamsala. With several senior stars resting, the young players showed great spirit and gave the team a 1-0 lead. Afghanistan captain Hashmatullah Shahidi said after winning the toss, "Wicket looks fresh.

I think it'll be spinning in the first innings. In the last game, we played really well but missed partnerships. Hopefully we come back stronger." He added that his side made three changes as Nabi was sick and others were injured.

India skipper Shubman Gill said, "We'd have bowled as well as we're forced to play with five bowlers. All about being clinical with our bowling. Prince makes his debut. We've got Kuldeep and Jaiswal in." Cricket fans expect another exciting contest as India aim to seal the series while Afghanistan fight back.

Australia hit by Litchfield's quad injury

LEEDS

Australia have suffered a major setback in the ongoing Women's T20 World Cup 2026 after star young batter Phoebe Litchfield was ruled out of the next three matches with a quad injury. The 23-year-old hurt her leg while batting in the opening game against South Africa and will miss the clash with Bangladesh. Litchfield had been in excellent form, smashing a quick 50 off just 23 balls against South Africa and giving her team a strong start. This new injury comes after she had already been managing some discomfort in the same quad muscle before the tournament, forcing her to sit out both warm-up games.

All-rounder Ashleigh Gardner is also sidelined for the Bangladesh match due to a sprained ankle. In their place, Megan Schutt and Grace Harris have been brought into the playing XI.

Ellyse Perry has moved up to number three in the batting order. Skipper Sophie Molineux confirmed the changes after winning the toss. "Beautiful ground, never been here before. Two changes, Phoebe Litchfield and Ash Gardner are out, and Grace Harris and Megan Schutt are in. Phoebe's got a new quad injury. She'll be out until hopefully the India match. Poor Ash had a bit of a fall, the old girl. Sprained ankle, will be fine for next game," she said.

Litchfield is expected to also miss games against the Netherlands and Pakistan but could return for the big showdown against India at Lord's on June 28. Australia's playing XI: Beth Mooney (wk), Georgia Voll, Ellyse Perry, Grace Harris, Georgia Wareham, Annabel Sutherland, Nicola Carey, Sophie Molineux (c), Alana King, Kim Garth, Megan Schutt.

NITISH REDDY MISSES ODI AGAINST AFGHANISTAN

LUCKNOW

India all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy has been ruled out of the second ODI against Afghanistan due to a sore left thigh. The 23-year-old missed the match at the Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow as the BCCI medical team continues to monitor his condition.

"Nitish Kumar Reddy was unavailable for selection for the second ODI due to a sore left thigh. The BCCI Medical Team is monitoring his progress," the board said in an official statement after the toss. Nitish had played a key role in India's seven-wicket win in the rain-shortened first ODI in Dharamsala. He took 2 for 31, picking up important wickets of explosive opener Rahmanullah Gurbaz and veteran Mohammad Nabi, which helped restrict Afghanistan to 194.

India made three changes to their playing eleven that won the series opener. Youngster Prince Yadav earned his debut, becoming the third new player in the series. Yashasvi Jaiswal and Kuldeep Yadav returned to the side, while Harsh Dubey and Prasidh Krishna were left out. Afghanistan won the toss and elected to bowl first. In the opening match, Gurbaz had smashed a brilliant century off just 48 balls to give Afghanistan a strong start. However, once he got out, their middle order collapsed. India's bowlers showed great discipline despite several young faces in the attack. With this latest injury concern, India will hope their squad depth helps them maintain momentum in the series.

Sangram Singh headlines Malaysia MMA Championship

KUALA LUMPUR

Indian MMA star and international wrestler Sangram Singh is set to headline the Malaysia Strike MMA Championship 2026 against Pakistan's Abid Ali in a historic Asia Championship title fight scheduled for July 19 in Kuala Lumpur. The highly anticipated India-Pakistan showdown has attracted global attention, with the winner set to be crowned Asia Champion, according to organisers.

The championship is being viewed as one of the biggest MMA events in the region this year, drawing strong interest from fans across the world. Malaysia's Prime Minister is expected to attend the event, adding prestige and highlighting the growing international importance of the championship.

Sangram Singh enters the fight after a strong year, having received the Billionaire Global Peace Award 2026 for his contributions to sport and peace initiatives. Known for his determination and inspiring journey, he continues to represent India on major international sporting platforms.

The rivalry between India and Pakistan adds extra excitement to the contest, which promises a thrilling battle before a global audience. As the countdown begins, fans around the world eagerly await July 19, 2026, when Kuala Lumpur will host the Asia Championship title fight.

Organisers say ticket demand is rising fast, with fans from India, Pakistan and other countries showing huge interest in the bout. The event is expected to strengthen sports ties and promote martial arts growth across Asia while delivering a high-energy night of competition in Kuala Lumpur for global viewers watching live on television and streaming platforms worldwide coverage.

Indian juniors gear up for Pickleball World Cup

MUMBAI

The Indian Pickleball Association has named a strong young team for the Pickleball World Cup 2026 after tough selection trials held in Ahmedabad from June 12 to 14. Talented players in the Under-18 and Under-14 groups will represent the country in Da Nang.

Arjun Singh will lead the juniors (18 & under) team. The standout performer won singles, boys' doubles with Aditya Singh, and mixed doubles with Naomi Amalsadiwala during the trials. Both Aditya and Naomi have also earned spots in the squad. The group also includes Dev Shah, Purvansh Patel, Vivaan Patel, Ashritha Raju and Diya Mattipati.

In the Kids (14 & under) category, Veer Shah has been named captain. He impressed everyone by winning a triple crown at the championships. The team features Viransh Chopra, Aarin Ballani, Mahika Rathod, Maansi Kartik and

Aashritaa S. Aarin and Mahika also shone brightly in various doubles events.

"This junior squad represents the bright future of Indian pickleball," said Suryaveer Singh Bhullar, president of the Indian Pickleball Association. He expressed confidence that the team will perform well and inspire more young players back home.

Arjun Singh, the U18 Captain, said representing India is a great honour and the team aims to improve on past results. The selected players will now join a special training camp to sharpen their skills, fitness and mental strength before the big event.

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